Hafa Adai!

SUNDAY

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XVIII, Issue No. 251 | SEPTEMBER 7, 2008 | www.saipantribune.com | 50¢

Visit us online @ www.saipantribune.com

OPINION METER

This week's poll:
Should PSS put off the start of classes to mid-September when the power situation is expected to stabilize?

Let your voice be heard!
Go to
www.saipantribune.com
to cast your vote.

9 DAYS until Sept. 16, when Aggreko generators are to start working

INSIDE

Hacienda
The Santa Monica house is a simple ranch, its seven archways formed of fat bricks salvaged from an old kiln.

GOOD HOUSEKEEPING... Page 10

Jenny, 55

The oldest gorilla in captivity, a 55-year-old female named Jenny, has died at the Dallas Zoo.

NATION...Page 18

'RocknRolla'
Crime just never stops paying for Guy Ritchie.

LIFE & STYLE...Page 22

"If these people are picked up by Immigration, they will be deported."
— Deanne Siemer, Labor administrative hearing officer

'950 alien workers unaccounted for'

'SADO URASENKE TANKO-KAI' JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ
Buddhist priest Sano Taiten offers a tea prepared by Japanese traditional tea ceremony association youth division president Veda Yoshiro, far left, for the souls of all World War II victims during the tea ceremony or Sado Urasenke Tanko-kai Memorial Ceremony at the Last Command Post in Marpi Saturday morning. The 32-member group from Kyoto arrived on Saipan Friday and is set to depart the island on Sept 9. Other picture shows female members of the Tanko-kai, clad in traditional Japanese kimono, offering incense and prayers for the souls of all WWII victims.

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

There are about 950 alien workers in the CNMI who could not be accounted for and are considered overstayers, according to a CNMI Labor Department official

Deanne Siemer, volunteer consultant and Labor administrative hearing officer, said these 950 people came to the CNMI legally and are still here, but they do not have current status to remain and have been published as overstayers.

"If these people are picked up by Immigration, they will be deported," she said.

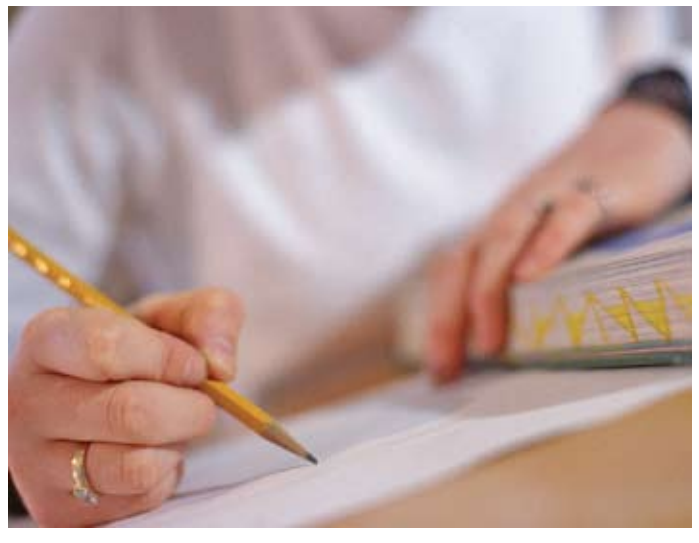
See UNACCOUNTED on Page 4

SAT scores stay at lowest level

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP)— For a second straight year, SAT scores for the most recent high school graduating class remained at the lowest level in nearly a decade, a trend attributed to a record number of students now taking the test.

The 1.52 million students who took the test is a slight increase from last year but a jump of nearly 30 percent over the past decade. Minority students accounted for 40 percent of test-takers, and 36 percent were the first in their families to attend college. Nearly one in seven had a low enough family income to take the test for free.

See MORE on Page 4



'Saipan's water is salty but drinkable'

By KRISTI EATON
kristi_eaton@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Water produced by the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has more sodium chloride, commonly known as salt, than recommended, but it is still safe to drink, said Derek Chambers, an Environmental Protection Agency adviser to the Division of Environmental Quality who works within the Safe Drinking Water branch.

"It's safe to drink; it just might not taste good," he said.

See WATER on Page 4

Chin-Seid rally draws 300 Palauans on Saipan. **PAGE 2**
L.A. judge hears arguments on Miura murder case. **PAGE 3**

Around the CNMI

Chin-Seid rally draws 300 Palauans on Saipan

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
n_rodriguez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Republic of Palau Vice President Elias Camsek Chin and Senate Floor Leader Alan R. Seid, who are running for President and Vice President in that country's upcoming polls, met the Palauan community on Saipan as part of their campaign trail across Micronesia.

The Chin-Seid rally at the Minatchom Atdao in Susupe last Friday night drew over 300 Palauans who are living on Saipan.

That number is based on the estimate given by the tandem's head of campaign on Saipan, Nariang Sikyang.

According to the latest available census, there are some 1,000 Palauans in the CNMI. The voting population is around 600, which is a significant portion of the ever-critical absentee ballots in any elections in the tiny republic.

Chin and Seid, along with their wives and supporters that included two governors, left Saipan yesterday, Sept. 6, for Guam, where they will also hold another rally.

They will be participating in a debate with other candidates tonight, Sept. 7.

NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.

Palau Vice President and Justice Minister Elias Camsek Chin, who is seeking for the presidency, speaks before an estimated 300 Palauans on Saipan during a campaign rally at the Minatchom Atdao in Susupe last Friday night, Sept. 5. At his right is his running mate, Senate Floor Leader Alan Seid. Others in photo are supporters Ben Sakuma (campaign manager), Governor of Ngiwal State Masasinge Arurang, Governor of Angaur Horace Rafael and senatorial candidate Brian San Nicolas, who is a lawyer based on Saipan.

There are four aspirants for both president and vice president.

The other three tandems are lawyer Johnson Toribiong and Delegate Kerai Mariur; Sen. Joshua Koshiba and Gov. Jackson Ngiraingas; and Senate President Surangel Whipps Sr. and Dr. Stevenson Kuartei.

The primary election is scheduled Sept. 23. The deadline for voters to request for absentee ballot is Sept. 16.

The top two vote getters after the primary will vie for the top two highest offices during the Nov. 4 General Elections, during which the people will also choose their new Senators and members of the House of Delegates.

Chin, who is also the Minister of Justice, said they are here to present heir resume to voters, just like when applying for a job.

"It's up to the people to evaluate our accomplishments. If they are satisfied with our vision for the future, then they must vote us," he said.

Chin said the people's vote must be based on what the candidates want for the future of the children of Palau and the "future of our nation."

Chin and Seid just completed their campaign trail in Hawaii last week before coming to Saipan. After Guam, they will concentrate on home turf.

"Our visit here is not only to campaign but also for friendship, camaraderie and solidarity," Seid said.

The Governor of Ngiwal Masasinge Arurang, governor of Angaur Horace Rafael, businessman Ben Sakuma also came to show their support for the Chin-Seid tandem.

A senatorial candidate who is based on Saipan as a lawyer, Brian San Nicolas, also showed up and gave his support to the team.

The president of the Palauan Community on Saipan, Rufino Aguon, who works at the Northern Marianas College, declined to comment about the elections, although he said he has already his choices.

Manalili says missing Matubis may be alive

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

There are indications that the missing Filipino worker, Alex Matubis, is still alive and is wandering around Saipan, according to Department of Public Safety's Criminal Investigation Division chief, Maj. Edward H. Manalili.

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune* Friday, Manalili said investigators have so far found no traces of foul play behind the disappearance of the 47-year-old worker.

"We're working on leads, pursuing leads very aggressively," the major said. "His safety is of utmost importance."

The CID chief said they have been coordinating with the Philippine Consulate General in trying to locate Matubis, a drafter and cartographer who was reported missing last July 30.

Manalili believes that Matubis is still alive since, after his disappearance was reported in the papers on Aug. 8, he was later sighted in the Marpi area, leading to the discovery of his blue Toyota pickup truck near the Kalabera Cave on Aug. 19.

The police official noted that the hood of the truck was still warm when investigators found the vehicle.

He said family members have reported that Matubis was acting strangely when he came back to Saipan after vacationing in the Philippines.

"He might need medical help," Manalili said, adding that very depressed people like to be alone.

The CID chief is asking anybody in the community to call his office at 664-9042/45, 911 or the Crime Stoppers Hotline at 234-7272 for any sightings of Matubis.

"We are hoping to locate him and get him the medical attention he might need," Manalili said.

Sources said that Matubis' wife in the Philippines is very worried. Before his disappearance, the Filipino worker had reportedly sent money to the wife in the amount equivalent to four months salary, sources said.

Matubis reportedly arrived on Saipan last July 28 after conducting work on Tinian.

Students take part in pilot program

By KRISTI EATON
kristi_eaton@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Students at three Public School System high schools will take part in a pilot program this school year focusing on creating portfolios to showcase their academic and work experience.

"We are really focused on student achievement. When students leave high school, they are unprepared. The [portfolios] will show the employer that they do have the skills necessary," said Karen Borja, principal of Marianas High School. Tinian High School and Kagman High School will join MHS in the pilot program this year.

The portfolio will highlight the students' academic work, as well as their work experience and extracurricular activities, Borja said.

"It will be very individualized for each child," she said. "It's the students' expression for themselves. It will also show they have some computer skills."

Each student, freshman through senior, will work on their portfolio throughout the year, Borja said. Students in 12th grade will present their portfolio to a panel to critique. Freshmen students will update their portfolio throughout their high school career," Borja said.

"It's sort of a living document," she added.

Once in a Lifetime Experience
HURRY UP! LIMITED SLOT AVAILABLE.
HOLYLAND
with Jordan and Egypt
Amman, Petra, Jordan; Nazareth, Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Israel; Dead Sea, Cairo, Egypt
October 7-21, 2008
$2,550.00
Twin sharing/per person
Includes
- Roundtrip Economy Class airfare Manila-Dubai-Amman and Cairo-Dubai-Manila via Emirates.
- Breakfast and dinners plus 1 lunch
- All hotel accomodations at 3-4 star hotels
- All tours mentioned with English Speaking guides
- Transfer from airport to hotel and vice versa
- Private motorcoach with Tour Manager and Local Guide.
Some restrictions apply.
For more information please call your travel agents, Lisa and Jie at (670) 235-3708 to 10 or e-mail us at customerservice@centurytravelagency.com
www.centurytravelagency.com
Century Travel AGENCY, INC.
A TanHoldings Company
Going the Extra Mile to Serve You!
Ground Floor CIC Centre, Beach Road, Garapan, PMB 193 Box 10000 PPP, Saipan MP 96950

PP1 back to two engines after blackout

By KRISTI EATON
kristi_eaton@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Power Plant 1 was back to producing 8.5 megawatts of power yesterday afternoon, after an engine tripped and caused a 45-minute island blackout Friday.

Engines 8 and 6 were working at Power Plant 1, with engine 3, producing 5 megawatts, expected to turn on later in the evening. With all three engines up and the engines from Power Plant 4 running, the island would have a total of approximately 27 megawatts of power by the end of the evening, said Gary Camacho, CUC Power Division manager. Approximately 41 megawatts are needed to sufficiently power the island.

On Friday, engine 8 automatically tripped and turned itself off after the cooling water and temperature exceeded normal levels.

"At that point in time, the island demand could not be met, and then of course, the rest of the units experienced low frequency and they just automatically shut off," he said. "Each and every one just started to shut off to protect itself."

If CUC is able to get three engines at Power Plant 1 operational, a revised load shedding schedule will go into affect with shorter outages for each area, Camacho said. Under the current schedule, each area is experiencing three-hour outages three times in a 24-hour period.

The third of four shipments of Aggreko generators is expected to arrive this weekend. Twelve of the 18 generators have arrived, and are undergoing tests to make sure they are ready to be turned on Sept. 12. They should provide their full 15 megawatts of power by Sept. 16 or 17.

L.A. judge hears arguments on Miura murder case

By THOMAS WATKINS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

TORRANCE—A Los Angeles County judge said Friday it would take him several weeks to rule on a motion to dismiss murder and conspiracy charges against a Japanese man who allegedly arranged for his wife to be killed in California more than a quarter century ago.

Kazuyoshi Miura is accused of conspiring to have his wife shot when they were visiting Los Angeles in 1981. Someone shot them as they stood by a downtown parking lot, hitting Miura in the leg and his wife, Kazumi Miura, 28, in the head. She died a year later from her wounds.

After a convoluted legal battle in Japan, Miura, now 61, was convicted there of murder, but that verdict was ultimately overturned in 1998 by the country's high courts.

Superior Court Judge Steven Van Sicklen listened to lengthy arguments Friday about whether Miura, who was arrested while on a business trip to the U.S. territory of Saipan in February, should now stand trial in this country.

Miura, who waived his right to be present at the hearing via satellite link from Saipan, claims he should not answer to U.S. courts because he has already stood trial for his wife's murder in Japan and therefore double jeopardy rules should protect him from a second trial.

Prosecutor Alan Jackson argued double jeopardy rules are not applicable because he never was tried in Japan for conspiracy to commit murder and because he never entered a plea under California law and was not tried here.

"The analysis comes down to this: The defendant never entered a special plea," Jackson said.

Defense attorney Mark Geragos said the argument was "nonsense," and that Miura does not need to have entered a plea here in order to be protected from a second trial.

"It's quite simple," Geragos said. "He was tried (in Japan) and he was acquitted there. That's what triggers jeopardy."

The judge said he would present a written ruling in court by Sept. 26.

The decision could be a split one, with a ruling that Miura can stand trial on the conspiracy charges but not the murder charge – or the other way round. Neither charge is restricted by a statute of limitation, Jackson said.

Loyola University law professor Stan Goldman, who viewed the hearing, said Van Sicklen seemed to be asking questions that were more probing of the prosecution than of the defense, a possible indication of his intent.

"I think the defense is going to sleep well tonight," Goldman said. "(Van Sicklen) had a lot of problems with the prosecution."

If Sicklen decides Miura should not stand trial, prosecutors would likely appeal the decision, Los Angeles County district attorney spokeswoman Sandi Gibbons said. Goldman predicted the defense also would appeal any ruling unfavorable to them.

Suffering from long hours of power outages?
Do you want to enjoy 24hr power in the comfort of your home?
Are you thinking of moving to an apartment that has 24hr power?
Then look no more!

Reality Management Services
A TanHoldings Company
Reality Management services is a full-service property management company located on the island of Saipan in the U.S. Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Conveniently located on Fina Sisu road, only a 5-minute walk to Northern Marianas College. Close to stores and schools, Finasisu Terraces features a convenient, spacious parking area. Fully furnished air-conditioned units are ready to move in. Single and two bedroom units are available.

Spacious two bedroom terrace apartments with a beautiful view of Western Saipan from Navy Hill. All units feature a private balcony, are fully furnished and feature FREE wireless DSL internet service.

24 Hour Water • Night Time Security • Typhoon Shutters
Laundry Area • Free Trash Collection • Backup Generator
On-call Maintenance Staff

24/7 POWER

MIHA applicants welcome. Now with new lower monthly rates. For more information please call us today…. Tel 235-6527/28 or 285-1317

Live the Fiesta Way!

Sunday Brunch

with Magic Show

Plus FREE Complimentary Pool pass!
Call 233-6414 For Reservation and Inquiries
VIP Discount Applies

Visit us every Sunday
and enjoy the island's best variety of fresh cuisine prepared before your eyes at our numerous Live Action stations!

Includes Free champagne,
Juices and draft beer with your brunch!

All for only $25 for adults, $12.50 for kids 5-11
Starting from 11 am - 2 pm

FIESTA
Resort & SPA
SAIPAN
A TanHoldings Company

One missing in chopper crash off Oahu

HONOLULU—Search crews from U.S. Coast Guard units in Hawaii will continue the search for one of their own overnight Friday, Sept. 5. A Coast Guard HH-65 Dolphin rescue helicopter crashed Thursday night five miles south of Honolulu International Airport.

Coast Guard search crews aboard the 87-foot patrol boat Kittiwake, aboard two HH-65s from Air Station Barbers Point and aboard two 25-foot small boats from the Marine Safety and Security Team Honolulu will continue to search an area roughly 10 by 13 miles in the middle of Mamala Bay on the South Shore of Oahu.

There have been no other significant signs of debris since the fuselage of the helicopter was brought to shore at the Coast Guard's Sand Island base at approximately 1 p.m. today.

Three air crew members perished in the crash and the search for the missing fourth crew member will continue as long as there is a reasonable chance of survival, said Rear Adm. Manson K. Brown, the commander of the Fourteenth Coast Guard District headquartered in Honolulu.

"We are bringing as many assets to bear as we can," said Brown, who commands 29 operational units in the Pacific, including the 300-member Air Station Barbers Point at Ewa Beach on Oahu.

"The entire Coast Guard grieves with the families of our lost air crew members and we will continue the search for our missing Coast Guardsman."

The crew of the 87-foot patrol boat Ahi will relieve the Kittiwake's crew Saturday morning in the search area and the 378-foot patrol boat Rush has been recalled from a law enforcement trip to American Samoa to aid in the search as well. Embarked aboard the Rush is an HH-65 Dolphin and air crew, which will join the search Saturday.

Also joining the search Saturday morning will be units and members of the Honolulu Fire Department, which helped recover the three deceased air crew members Thursday.

"We appreciate the assistance of the Honolulu Fire Department, the state DLNR, the U.S. Navy and Air Force, Hawaii Air National Guard and Honolulu Police Department for their help so far," said Brown.

The weather on scene Friday night was reported to be "calm" by searchers with winds out of the east at 10 knots and seas of four to six feet.

AP

This image provided by the US Navy shows a Coast Guard HH-65 Dolphin rescue helicopter over the waters of near Oahu, Hawaii on Dec. 20, 2002, similar to the one crashed in waters five miles south of Honolulu Thursday night Sept. 4, 2008.

'Outages affect detectives' work, damage computers'

The constant outages on Saipan are greatly affecting the work of detectives at the Department of Public Safety and have in fact damaged some of their computers, a ranking police official said.

DPS Criminal Investigation Division chief Maj. Edward H. Manalili told *Saipan Tribune* that detectives would schedule interviews with victims and witnesses at CID but, since the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s announced schedule of outages are useless, a lot of times the outages occur in the middle of interviews.

"It's results in the juggling of schedules," he pointed out.

He said all their backup batteries are burned out because of the outages.

The CID chief said the frequent outages caused three of their computers to completely break down, while two to three other computers need constant repair.

Since detectives could not do their reports when outages occur and considering it is too hot inside their offices, many of them just hang around outside. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Unaccounted for workers deemed overstayers

From Page 1

Siemer said the number is an estimate until Labor gets all the annual reviews done by Oct. 30, 2008.

She disclosed the number of alleged overstayers during Thursday's meeting with officials and representatives of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce and Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands at Labor's conference room.

The meeting, which is one of a series, was held to obtain input from the community on what amendments Labor can propose to the controversial Public Law 15-108, or the new reform labor law.

"A lot of the people that folks see in what they think is the underground economy are people who actually have jobs and are working two jobs, three jobs and the second or third jobs maybe illegal. That is, they have no permit for that, they may not have registered. The employer is entirely illegal. But that person actually does have a job," said Siemer.

She said there have been estimates over the years that there are 8,000 overstayers in the CNMI, but none of these are hard facts.

Labor officials explained in the meeting that the computer systems at Labor back in the '90s were very different from the one Labor is using now.

Siemer said it is possible that there are more people out there who came into the Commonwealth during the 1980s or 1990s and never worked in 2000 and thereafter.

"If someone has been illegal for 10 years or more, it will take more time to find them," she said.

Federal immigration authorities, Siemer said, will clearly have the funds that would enable them to go back to the 1980s and 1990s records and find these people.

"Anyone who has been illegal that long is very likely to be deported by the federal authorities as soon as they are found. The Commonwealth estimates that there are relatively few people in this class," she said.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial had asked Labor and the Immigration Division to determine how many overstayers were, in fact, in the CNMI.

To determine the number of overstayers, Labor reviews all its actions during each quarter and determines who should have left the Commonwealth.

These are people whose labor cases are finished, whose contracts have terminated, whose appeals have been denied and so on.

A Labor employee then consults the Border Management System and finds out who did leave. The remaining people are put on the quarterly overstayer list.

The overstayer list is published in the newspapers for two consecutive weeks, and people are given the opportunity to come in to Labor and correct the records.

Labor Deputy Secretary Cinta Kaipat certifies the corrected quarterly list and sends it to the Immigration Division.

More students taking SAT exams

From Page 1

"More than ever, the SAT reflects the face of education in this country," said Gaston Caperton, president of the College Board, which owns the test and released the results Tuesday.

The class of 2008 scored an average of 515 out of a possible 800 points on the math section of the college entrance exam, a performance identical to graduating seniors in the previous year.

Scores in the critical reading component among last spring's high school seniors also held steady at 502, but the decline over time has been more dramatic: the past two years represent the lowest reading average since 1994, when graduating seniors scored 499.

By comparison, the highest average reading score in recent decades was 530 by the class of 1972, although that score dropped dramatically within five years to near present levels. The latest math average is just five points below the 35-year high of 520, reached three years ago.

Those historical highs are tempered by the test's more selective reach a generation ago, said Jim Hull, a policy analyst for the Center for Public Education, which is affiliated with the National School Boards Association.

"You only had the best of the best taking the test," he said. "The SAT has become far more inclusive."

Average scores also remained constant on the writing portion of the SAT, which was added to the entrance exam in 2006. For the second year in a row, the average score was 494—a three-point drop from its debut year.

The writing test is still a work in progress, with many colleges waiting for several years of data before factoring that portion into admissions decisions.

But the College Board released data Tuesday suggesting that scores on the newest portion of the exam are the most accurate gauge of first-year success in college. Studies by the University of Georgia and the University of California support the group's findings, it reported.

Males on average scored four points higher than females on the reading section (504 vs. 500) and 33 points higher on the math test (533 vs. 500), but females on average outscored their counterparts on the writing test, 501 to 488.

Average ACT scores released earlier this month showed a slight decrease, for the class of 2008—21.1 compared to 21.2 a year ago, on a scale of 1 to 36. With 1.42 million test-takers, the rival exam still lags behind the more-entrenched SAT, but is growing at a faster rate.

That trend is only likely to continue, said SAT critic Bob Schaeffer of the National Center for Fair and Open Testing, who called the new three-part SAT a "flop." Nearly 800 colleges now consider the SAT an optional test for admissions, according to the group.

'Water may taste bad but is still safe to drink'

From Page 1

CUC water has 2,000 parts per million of sodium chloride. The common recommendation is 500 parts per million, Chambers said. In comparison, seawater has 35,000 parts per million.

Some people are under the assumption that the water is not potable, forcing them to buy bottled water, but in fact, the water is perfectly fine to drink.

"If it [salt levels] get high enough, people just don't drink it," Chambers said.

The EPA does not set standards for sodium chloride because it does not have an adverse health effect, he added.

Depending on the location, the amount of sodium chloride varies, but the Kagman well and the well near the airport tend to be saltier, Chambers said.

Bruce Megarr, CUC deputy director for the Water and Sewer Division, said he has a set a five-year goal to have water that is not only safe to drink but is tasteful.

"We're constantly looking for higher quality sources," Megarr said. "I think five years is very doable."

Chambers also said he thinks the goal is possible. "I've been here four years, and the first goal was to have 24-hour water," he said, adding that 25 percent of the island had 24-hour water when he arrived, and now 63 percent have round-the-clock water.

Garapan still only has two hours of water a day because of the old pipes surrounding the area, Megarr said.

"Garapan is one of our biggest problems," he said. "We pump 10 [gallons] down there and five disappear. There is a distribution problem."

The distribution problem dates back to the Japanese era in the 1930. Instead of focusing on leak detection, Megarr said, CUC will be replacing the whole distribution section.

Many of the hotels in Garapan have their own water systems with 24-hour water, so tourists are not affected, Chambers said. The Hyatt Regency Saipan alone uses 100,000 gallons per day from its own supply.

Collecting rainwater is one way to make sure 24-hour water with less sodium chloride is available, said Chambers, who collects his own rainwater at his house.

The airport used to collect rainwater from the runway, but it was forced to stop the practice in 2003 because of an inadequate filter. There are plans to restore the practice, he added.

JUAN is the ONLY ONE

Allow JUAN TUDELA LIZAMA to help you be a part of the federal system as your elected official to congress. He has what it takes to make a key difference for the CNMI. We cannot say precisely what the future holds, but there is strong assurance in relying on a man like JUAN. He is an experienced advocate an known to be a person who listens, plans, and gets the job done relying on his resourceful experience. A man who other members of congress will respect and listen to. That's what puts JUAN TUDELA LIZAMA ahead of the others.

Please vote 'YES TO LIZAMA' because JUAN IS THE ONLY ONE!

VOTE #4
YES TO LIZAMA

Attended Conference on "Putting People First" in Verona, Italy, July 12, 2008

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT JUAN T. LIZAMA WASHINGTON DELEGATE.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XVIII, Issue No. 251

Published daily at 2/F CIC Centre,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

Lynn Knight PUBLISHER
Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER
The Associated Press Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

McCain's reach

In accepting his party's nomination for president Thursday night, John McCain didn't need to rally the Republican ranks against his Democratic opponent. That mission was effectively and engagingly accomplished the night before by his running mate, Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin. The self-described pit bull with lipstick savaged Barack Obama with a smile, offering McCain an opportunity to move beyond partisan point-scoring to outline a governing agenda that would appeal to moderate Republicans, Democrats, independents and Americans of all affiliations afflicted with Bush fatigue.

His speech did that. But the overarching theme was not substance but process. McCain made two pledges: A McCain-Palin administration would move beyond "constant partisan rancor" to "fix problems that need to be fixed," and it would be the scourge of self-dealing politicians, lobbyists and special interests.

McCain's emphasis on ethics and transparency comes naturally to him. It also reflects the reality—which he conceded—that voters ended Republican control of Congress in 2006 because of scandals suggesting that Washington outsiders had become avaricious insiders. But process only goes so far. The weightiest decisions confronting a president—and Congress, for that matter—involve more than a commitment to probity and openness.

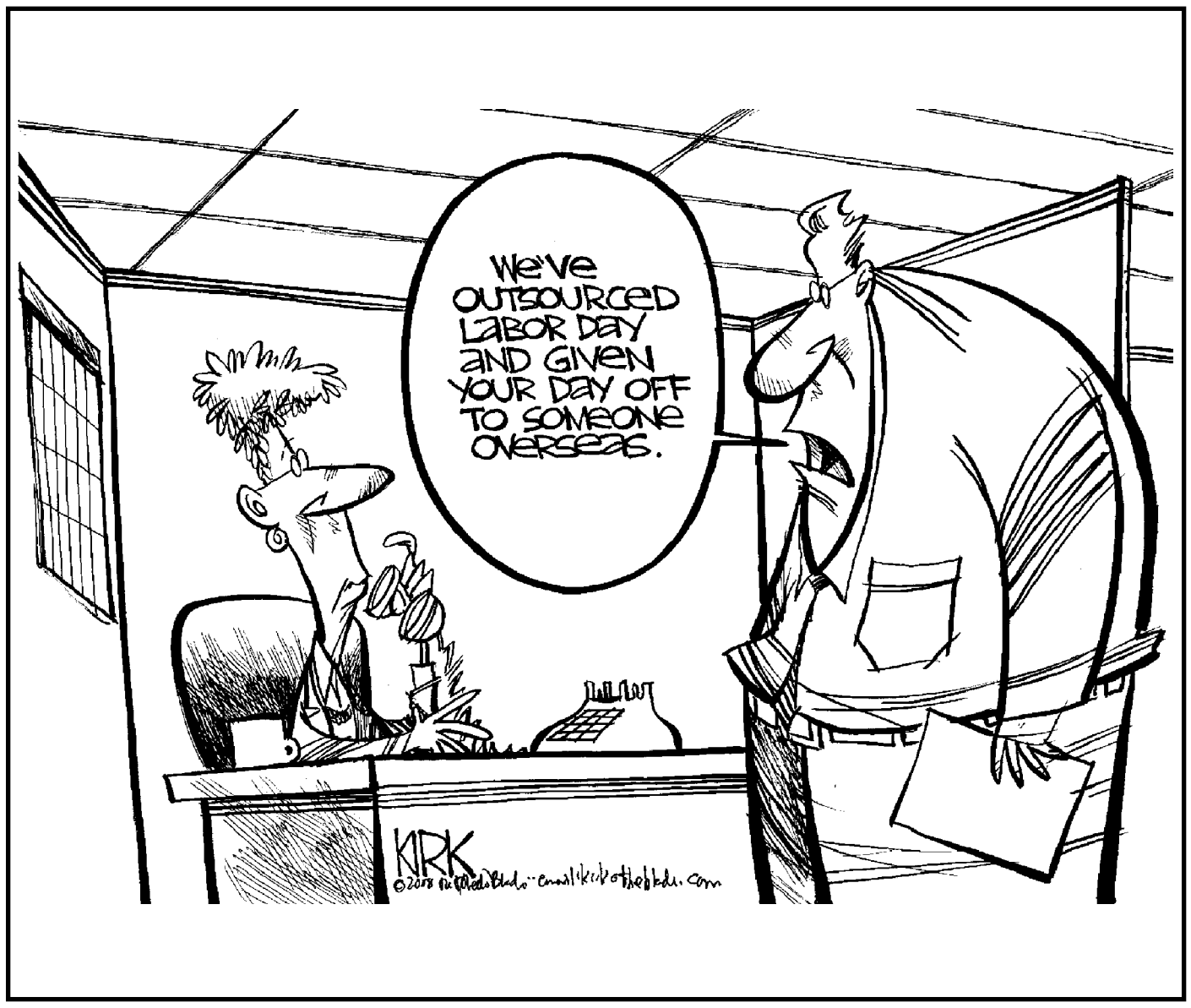
To his credit, McCain addressed some of those issues in ways that distinguished him from Obama. He promised to create jobs by opening foreign markets for American goods and services, a contrast to the protectionism with which Obama and other Democrats have been dangerously flirting. He called for government intervention to retrain and compensate workers displaced by globalization. He portrayed tax cuts, not higher taxes on higher income brackets, as an engine of economic growth. He advocated, in general terms, a program to make it easier for families to obtain private health insurance.

As Obama did in his acceptance speech, McCain promised a comprehensive approach to energy independence—but one in which drilling for new oil and nuclear power play a central role. He promised to promote a "culture of life" and coupled that with a commitment to appoint judges who "don't legislate from the bench." Together, those pledges amounted to a declaration of war on legal abortion.

McCain deserves credit for infusing what could have been a purely rhetorical exercise with policy prescriptions. Yet this litany was notable also for what it omitted. Where was the robust defense of comprehensive immigration reform, perhaps the most dramatic example of McCain's ability to work with Democrats and infuriate Republican conservatives? Where was a specific blueprint for reform to prevent future collapses in the home mortgage market? Where was the full-throated renunciation of the torture of suspected terrorists that distinguishes McCain from the morally myopic policies of the Bush administration?

It is peculiar, and depressing, that a candidate who emphasizes his role as a maverick would de-emphasize examples of his independence that might discomfit the conservative true believers in his audience.

(c) 2008, Los Angeles Times



Drilling for clean energy

By JIM MARSHALL and ROSCOE BARTLETT
SPECIAL TO THE WASHINGTON POST

The controversial bans on drilling offshore and in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge have preserved precious oil and natural gas reserves owned by the public. Thank environmentalists for this unintended gift.

But for these bans, we would have wasted the reserves without a strategic plan. Leasing and drilling would have lowered world oil prices by a few cents, benefiting more foreign consumers than Americans. The federal revenue from royalties, lease payments and taxes would have been used to meet current federal expenditures. And our remaining publicly owned oil and natural gas would be substantially depleted. Consequently, our dependence on foreign energy sources would be even greater than it is—and it is likely that the current commodity price crisis would be worse.

We hope this price crisis prompts the adoption of a strategic plan to use the remaining value of our federally owned oil and natural gas reserves to fund a clean, affordable and independent energy future for America, a goal worthy of short-term environmental concessions and risks. Virtually all general drilling bans should be lifted. We should permit drilling offshore and in the ANWR and require that it be done with appropriate care.

Before granting additional drilling rights, however, we should fundamentally change the terms of future oil and gas lease agreements to ensure that taxpayers capture more of the revenue from our remaining reserves. Today's agreements provide exceptional profits for leaseholders when prices rise, so much so that leaseholders have a significant financial incentive to delay production until prices rise. That must change.

To achieve a huge net win for the environment, the federal revenue from future oil and gas production should be placed in a trust fund and used to foster a clean energy future for America. This must supplement, not replace, other environmental commitments we have made. We should jump-start the necessary federal investments for this secure energy future by immediately issuing bonds (perhaps called Energy Independence Bonds) against this expected revenue. Issuing such bonds would guarantee that our remaining oil and natural gas revenue is actually used to establish energy alternatives. The bonds would have to be repaid with that revenue.

Opinions vary concerning the volume of remaining federal oil and gas reserves and the amount of federal revenue they would produce. But by any measure, it is an enormous sum. Estimates are in the trillions of dollars, assuming competent federal management. In a sharp break from current practice, none of this revenue should be shared with host states. Most host states already enjoy revenue from oil and gas production on state lands. They have no legal or inherent claim to federal revenue, and the drilling bans have removed any practical expectation of revenue from the areas they affect. Lifting those bans would still give host states windfall benefits from jobs, economic stimulus and tax revenue related to federal production. Most important, host states would directly benefit from federal expenditures used to secure America's energy independence. Diverting revenue to states would hamper our national effort. We are all in this together.

Simply adopting a plausible U.S. strategic plan for energy independence would have a positive impact on world oil prices. And absent a significant supply disruption, oil's economic stranglehold would be eliminated if domestic demand stayed flat or grew only slightly while U.S. consumption of alternatives to oil, including natural gas, increased by a few percentage points a year. With prompt federal action, we could quickly achieve these demand and growth rates and greatly reduce oil's pressure on prices.

The United States can be virtually free of fossil-fuel use within a few decades—if we pursue this goal aggressively. (Air travel may be the exception.) To meet such an objective, we would turn principally to solar and wind energy. Nuclear should be in the mix as well, at least for the near future. We should rethink biofuels, discouraging those that compete with food production or degrade the environment while encouraging those that capture energy from waste. We are intrigued by the possibility of building a direct current superhighway that would permit the efficient transmission of nuclear, solar and wind power throughout the nation. But we should adopt a strategic plan before making any such tactical decisions. Clean energy technologies developed with federal funding should be federally owned and strategically shared with other nations.

Taking these reasonable steps promptly would avoid an economic train wreck that now seems inexorable while greatly improving our national security. America would again be leading the world, this time toward a sustainable future.

Jim Marshall, a Democrat, represents Georgia's 8th District in the U.S. House. Roscoe Bartlett, a Republican, represents Maryland's 6th District.

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, CIC Centre, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Wrong woman, wrong message

By GLORIA STEINEM
Special to the Los Angeles Times

Steinem is an author, feminist organizer and co-founder of the Women's Media Center. She supported Hillary Rodham Clinton and is now supporting Barack Obama.

Here's the good news: Women have become so politically powerful that even the anti-feminist right wing—the folks with a headlock on the Republican Party—are trying to appease the gender gap with a first-ever female vice president. We owe this to women—and to many men, too—who have picketed, gone on hunger strikes or confronted violence at the polls so women can vote. We owe it to Shirley Chisholm, who first took the "white-male-only" sign off the White House, and to Hillary Rodham Clinton, who hung in there through ridicule and misogyny to win 18 million votes.

But here is even better news: It won't work. This isn't the first time a boss has picked an unqualified woman just because she agrees with him and opposes everything most other women want and need. Feminism has never been about getting a job for one woman. It's about making life more fair for women everywhere. It's not about a piece of the existing pie; there are too many of us for that. It's about baking a new pie.

Selecting Sarah Palin, who was touted all summer by Rush Limbaugh, is no way to attract most women, including die-hard Clinton supporters. Palin shares nothing but a chromosome with Clinton. Her down-home, divisive and deceptive speech did nothing to cosmeticize a Republican convention that has more than twice as many male delegates as female, a presidential candidate who is owned and operated by the right wing and a platform that opposes pretty much everything Clinton's candidacy stood for—and that Barack Obama's still does. To vote in protest for McCain/Palin would be like saying, "Somebody stole my shoes, so I'll amputate my legs."

This is not to beat up on Palin. I defend her right to be wrong, even on issues that matter most to me. I regret that people say she can't do the job because she has children in need of care, especially if they wouldn't say the same about a father. I get no pleasure from imagining her in the spotlight on national and foreign-policy issues about which she has zero background, with one month to learn to compete with Sen. Joe Biden's 37 years' experience.

Palin has been honest about what she doesn't know. When asked last month about the vice presidency, she said, "I still can't answer that question until someone answers for me: What is it exactly that the VP does every day?" When asked about Iraq, she said, "I haven't really focused much on the war in Iraq."

She was elected governor largely because the incumbent was unpopular, and she's won over Alaskans mostly by using unprecedented oil wealth to give a $1,200 rebate to every resident. Now she is being praised by McCain's campaign as a tax cutter, despite the fact that Alaska has no state income tax or sales tax. Perhaps McCain has opposed affirmative action for so long that he doesn't know it's about inviting more people to meet standards, not lowering them. Or perhaps McCain is following the Bush administration habit, as in the Justice Department, of putting a job candidate's views on "God, guns and gays" ahead of competence. The difference is that McCain is filling a job one 72-year-old heartbeat away from the presidency.

So let's be clear: The culprit is John McCain. He may have chosen Palin out of change-envy, or a belief that women can't tell the difference between form and content, but the main motive was to please right-wing ideologues; the same ones who nixed anyone who is now or ever has been a supporter of reproductive freedom. If that were not the case, McCain could have chosen a woman who knows what a vice president does and who has thought about Iraq; someone like Texas Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison or Sen. Olympia Snowe of Maine. McCain could have taken a baby step away from right-wing patriarchs who determine his actions, right down to opposing the Violence Against Women Act.

Palin's value to those patriarchs is clear: She opposes just about every issue that women support by a majority or plurality. She believes that creationism should be taught in public schools but disbelieves global warming; she opposes gun control but supports government control of women's wombs; she opposes stem cell research but approves "abstinence-only" programs, which increase unwanted births, sexually transmitted diseases and abortions; she tried to use taxpayers' millions for a state program to shoot wolves from the air but didn't spend enough money to fix a state school system with the lowest high-school graduation rate in the nation; she runs with a candidate who opposes the Fair Pay Act but supports $500 million in subsidies for a natural gas pipeline across Alaska; she supports drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Reserve, although even McCain has opted for the lesser evil of offshore drilling. She is Phyllis Schlafly, only younger.

I don't doubt her sincerity. As a lifetime member of the National Rifle Association, she doesn't just support killing animals from helicopters, she does it herself. She doesn't just talk about increasing the use of fossil fuels but puts a coal-burning power plant in her own small town. She doesn't just echo McCain's pledge to criminalize abortion by overturning Roe v. Wade, she says that if one of her daughters were impregnated by rape or incest, she should bear the child. She not only opposes reproductive freedom as a human right but implies that it dictates abortion, without saying that it also protects the right to have a child.

So far, the major new McCain supporter that Palin has attracted is James Dobson of Focus on the Family. Of course, for Dobson, "women are merely waiting for their husbands to assume leadership," so he may be voting for Palin's husband.

Being a hope-a-holic, however, I can see two long-term bipartisan gains from this contest.

Republicans may learn they can't appeal to right-wing patriarchs and most women at the same time. A loss in November could cause the centrist majority of Republicans to take back their party, which was the first to support the Equal Rights Amendment and should be the last to want to invite government into the wombs of women.

And American women, who suffer more because of having two full-time jobs than from any other single injustice, finally have support on a national stage from male leaders who know that women can't be equal outside the home until men are equal in it. Barack Obama and Joe Biden are campaigning on their belief that men should be, can be and want to be at home for their children.

This could be huge.

Lessons from a caterpillar

By JEFF LANTOS
Special to the Los Angeles Times

Lantos teaches at Marquez Charter Elementary School in Los Angeles.

One year ago, a tall, dark, tousle-haired boy named Noah walked into my fifth-grade classroom. He was accompanied by his mother and by a burly man with a shaved head. This was Leo, age 29, and he would be at Noah's side for the next 10 months.

Noah needed a "shadow" because he was operating with a handicap. Three weeks into his life, he had suffered a traumatic brain injury that had, in effect, rerouted some of the cerebral wiring. After 20 years of teaching, I've had my share of students with special needs. I was familiar with autism, Asperger's syndrome and attention deficit disorder. But I'd never met a kid like Noah.

He could recite most of his multiplication facts. With Leo's help, he would learn to make his way through long division and triple-digit multiplication. He loved to listen to the stories that I read aloud, and he spent hours trying to learn some challenging vocabulary words.

Writing did not come easily, and reading out loud was a struggle. During class discussions, Noah could be attentive enough to ask questions ("What do you mean by 'cheap labor?' ") or he'd tune out and draw intricate pictures of naval battles. There were days when Noah would get so agitated, he'd stand and say, "I can't take this anymore. I'm leaving!" After those outbursts, Leo would walk him outside or take him to visit my colleague, Ms. Conn, who would ask Noah if she could see his latest drawings.

By November, Noah felt comfortable enough to get up and go hang with Ms. Conn. He didn't ask for permission, and I didn't stop him. Soon Ms. Conn had a gallery of Noah's pirate ships on her wall. Noah had a detailed narrative for every picture.

One day, after teaching a math lesson on the order of operations, I said to Noah, "Would you like to do a problem on the board?" He nodded.

I wrote 5 x 4 + 3. Noah looked at it, said, "Simple," and wrote the correct answer. His classmates cheered. Noah smiled. "How about another one?" he asked. I wrote another problem and he nailed it again. More cheering. Noah had no intention of sitting down. Then I said, "Do you think you can hit my fastball?"

"What do you mean?"

"I'm speaking metaphorically. My 'fastball' means a really tough problem."

"Bring it on," said Noah.

So I wrote this problem on the board: 3 + 9 x 7 + 2. Noah did some thinking, then some computing and then he wrote 86. The class was silent. Noah quickly turned back to the board and said, "I know that 3 + 9 is 12, but in this problem the first thing you have to do is multiply 9 x 7." He looked at me for confirmation. I nodded. "And so the real answer is 68." That's how it would go with Noah. He'd ask for fastballs and then take us all through his thinking process.

One day a classmate tried to correct him, and Noah said, "Be quiet or I'll kill you."

I said, "Noah, you don't really mean that, do you?"

"I was speaking metaphorically," he said.

In early December, I had a conference with Noah's mom, and I told her that he was making good progress and even doing grade-level work in math. "And when he can't sit still, he either walks next door or he wanders around the room and gives neck and shoulder massages to his classmates."

"He does?"

"Yes, to boys and girls."

"What do they do?"

"They thank him."

"Do you think he's completely aware of what's going on around him?" asked his mom. "Do you see him picking up visual cues?"

"He's pretty much in his own orbit, but it's not even Christmas. That might change," I said.

And change it did, shortly after a student we'll call Angela walked into the class.

A midyear transfer student, Angela was a brown-eyed, British beauty with a peaches-and-cream complexion and a lilting accent. She took the empty desk next to Noah. For several weeks, they said nothing to each other. Then we had a class discussion about immigration, and Noah suddenly looked up from his doodling and said, "We're talking about you, Angela." What a giant leap that was. He'd made the connection -- with the topic and with her.

After that, I often saw them talking to each other. Instead of taking his drawings to Ms. Conn, Noah would explain them to Angela. He never gave her a neck massage, though. On some level he must have sensed that such intimacy would cross a line he wasn't ready to cross.

When spring rolled around, Noah not only recited a Whitman poem in front of the class, he played a small part in a musical we performed. I asked him if he'd like to speak at our graduation. He talked about it with his parents and then told me that he would accept that challenge.

In the first draft of his speech, which he read to the class, Noah said that what he'd always remember about fifth grade (among other things) was hitting my fastballs and meeting Angela, "because I like meeting people from other countries." I thought that was perfect. It was heartfelt, but general enough not to leave him vulnerable. I was wrong.

Noah's classmates tittered and looked at Angela, whose complexion was now more peaches and less cream. Noah picked up the visual cues, all of which must have left him feeling awkward. The night before graduation, his mom told me that he was sick but that she was determined to bring him to the ceremony.

Noah arrived just as Elgar's "Pomp and Circumstance" filled the air. We put him on first so he wouldn't have time to lose his mojo. He walked on stage, unfolded his speech and spoke in front of 400 people. I stood next to him, and his mom was in the second row mouthing the words. His reference to Angela had been deleted, and so instead of tittering there were only cheers and tears. Noah basked in the applause. This caterpillar had turned into a butterfly.

This week, I will meet the 30 new students to whom I will pitch fastballs for the next 10 months. There may not be a Noah among them, but there will no doubt be kids on the fringes of the academic grid. When working with these kids, I'll remember the lessons Noah taught me. Look beyond the obvious limitations. Every student has a passion or a talent for something. If I can identify and nurture that talent, then I will have created a space in which every student can succeed.

Oh, one more thing. We just got the 2008 test scores. Noah scored at grade level in math, language arts and science.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°

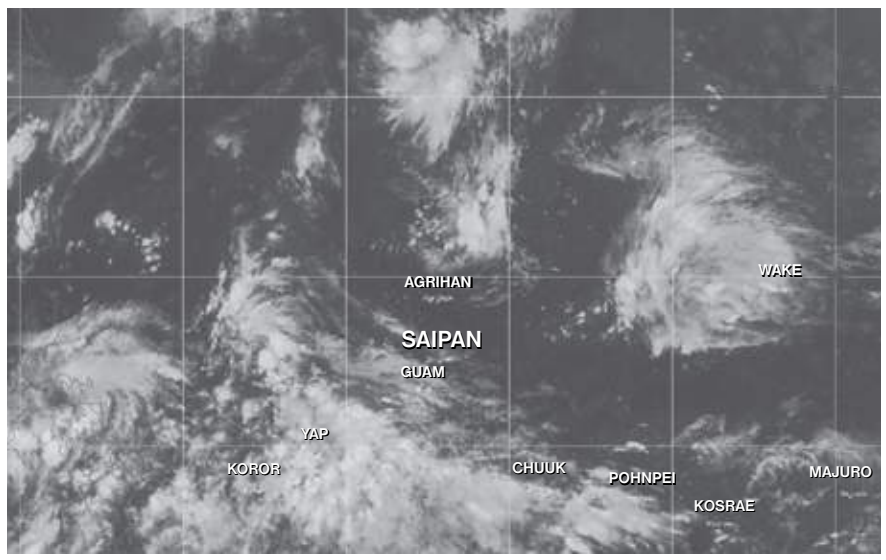
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Cloudy	▲86	▼76
Palau	Mostly Cloudy	▲85	▼77
Yap	Mostly Cloudy	▲85	▼77
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼78
Pohnpei	Cloudy	▲89	▼73
Kosrae	Mostly Cloudy	▲88	▼76
Majuro	Mostly Cloudy	▲86	▼76

Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲67	▼57
Beijing	Partly Sunny	▲81	▼64
Hong Kong	Mostly Cloudy	▲87	▼79
Honolulu	Showers	▲85	▼76
London	Rain	▲65	▼55
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	▲82	▼64
Manila	Mostly Cloudy	▲90	▼77
Melbourne	Cloudy	▲61	▼49
Miami	Mostly Sunny	▲91	▼80
New York	Partly Sunny	▲82	▼69
Osaka	Mostly Cloudy	▲82	▼66
Paris	Cloudy	▲71	▼56
Pusan	Cloudy	▲85	▼66
Rome	Cloudy	▲90	▼70
Salem	Sunny	▲83	▼52
San Francisco	Sunny	▲73	▼55
Seoul	Partly Sunny	▲83	▼60
Tokyo	Cloudy	▲84	▼71
Washington, DC	Partly Sunny	▲88	▼66

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:30PM, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2008
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A surface trough extends northward from 5N139E to 21N135E. Trade-wind convergence near the trough combines with upper-level divergence to generate extensive cloud-cover. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms west of the Mariana Islands over Palau and Yap or within an area bounded by a line from 20N138E to 5N130E to Eq133E to 3N133E to 11N144E to 15N145E back to 20N138E. A weaker surface trough reaches northeastward from 2N145E to 6N147E. Extensive cloud-cover scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring mainly east of the trough within 250 miles of a line from 1N134E to 5N147E to 5N160E. This area lies southeast of Koror and Yap and just south of Chuuk and Pohnpei. An upper-level low is centered at 25N155E. Upper-level divergence east of the low has aided the development of a surface trough heading northward from 14N154E to beyond 25N161E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms associated with the trough are found between 15N and 25N from 157E to 167E. This area is located east of Minami Tori Shima and includes Wake island.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

6:15AM Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
2:24PM Today	High Tide:	1.4 Feet
6:58PM Today	Low Tide:	1.3 Feet
11:39PM Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:05AM	6:25 PM
Monday	6:05AM	6:24 PM
Tuesday	6:05AM	6:23 PM
Wednesday	6:05AM	6:23 PM
Thursday	6:05AM	6:22 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	12:10PM	11:29PM
Monday	1:03PM	
Tuesday	1:53PM	12:20AM
Wednesday	2:41PM	1:13AM
Thursday	3:27PM	2:06AM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Sunday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $182. Off-island subscription rate is $376 per year. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2008

DEPARTURES

Saipan-Rota

CO 9313	8:30am	9:05am	3,4,7

Saipan-Guam

CO9317	4:00am	4:50am	Daily
CO9597	8:30am	9:20am	1,2,5,6
CO9313	8:30am	10:00am	3,4,7 via Rota
CO9601	12:30pm	1:20pm	Daily
CO9603	3:30pm	4:20pm	Daily
CO9605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
CO9599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

Saipan-Narita

NW 099	5:00am	7:30am	Daily
NW 078	8:55am	2:00pm	Daily
NW 075	4:55pm	7:25pm	Daily

Saipan-Osaka

NW 083	4:20pm	6:55pm	Daily

Saipan-Nagoya

NW 078	8:55am	11:35am	Daily

Saipan-Seoul

OZ 604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ 604	2:50am	6:30am	2,3,4,5,6,7
OZ 606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2,4,6,7

Saipan-Busan

OZ 608	3:50am	7:20am	1,5

Guam-Manila

CO 891	6:00am	10:30am	3 via Yap and Koror
CO 893	5:50pm	9:10pm	5 via Koror
CO 933	7:00pm	8:40pm	Daily
PR 111	6:00am	7:45am	1,2,4,6,7

Saipan-Guanzhou

CZ 3008	5:00am	8:00am	2,6

Guam-Rota

CO 9598	10:15am	10:45am	1,2,6

ARRIVALS

Rota-Saipan

CO 9598	11:10am	11:45am	1,2,6

Guam-Saipan

CO 9316	2:30am	3:20am	Daily
CO9596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
CO9598	10:15am	11:45am	1,2,6 via Rota
CO9600	10:45am	11:35am	3,4,5,7
CO9602	2:00pm	2:50pm	Daily
CO9604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
CO9606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

Narita-Saipan

NW 076	10:15am	2:50pm	Daily
NW 077	6:25pm	1:30am+1	Daily
NW 100	8:45pm	1:20am+1	Daily

Osaka-Saipan

NW 084	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily

Nagoya-Saipan

NW 077	9:00pm	1:30am+1	Daily

Seoul-Saipan

OZ 605	9:00am	2:30pm	2,4,6,7
OZ 603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ 603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1,2,3,4,5,6

Busan-Saipan

OZ 607	9:30pm	2:50am+1	4,7

Manila-Guam

CO 892	11:45am	8:25pm+1	3 via Koror and Yap
CO 892	10:10pm	5:30am+1	5 via Koror
CO 934	10:55pm	4:30am+1	Daily
PR 110	10:20pm	4:00am+1	1,3,5,6,7

Guanzhou-Saipan

CZ 3007	8:00pm	4:00am+1	1,5

Rota-Guam

CO 9313	9:30am	10:00am	3,4,7

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; PR: Philippine Airlines; CZ: China Southern; CA: Air China; NW: Northwest; JO: Japan Airlines; OZ: Asiana; MU: China Eastern ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
Guam-Rota			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily

Schedule of Religious Services

CATHOLIC

Mt. Carmel Cathedral
Sunday Mass: 6am, 9am, 11am and 6pm
Monday-Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6am and 6pm

Korean Center
Sunday: 10:30am
Wednesday: 10am
Thursday-Friday: 8pm
Saturday: 3pm and 7:30pm

Kristo Rai Parish
Sunday Mass: 6am, 8am and 9:30am
Monday- Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6am and 6pm
Saturday: 6am and 6pm

Nuestra Senora De Soledad Parish
Wednesday Mass: 6pm
First Friday Healing Mass: 6pm
Saturday Mass: 6pm
Sunday Masses: 7:30am & 9am

Saint Jude Parish
Sunday: 6am, 8am, 10am
Wednesday and Thursday: 6pm

San Antonio Parish
Sunday: 6am and 8am
Tuesday and Friday: 6pm

San Francisco de Borja-Rota
Sunday: 6am and 8am
Monday-Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6pm

San Isidro-Rota
Sunday: 5am and 10am
Monday-Wednesday: 7pm
Thursday-Saturday: 5am and 7pm

San Jose (Oleai) Parish
Sunday: 6am and 7:30am
Tuesday-Wednesday and Friday-Saturday: 6pm

San Roque Parish
Sunday: 9am
Wednesday: 6pm
Saturday: 10:30am

San Vicente Parish
Sunday: 6am, 9am and 6pm
Monday-Saturday: 6pm

Santa Remedios
Sunday: 7:30am
Tuesday: 6pm
Saturday: 10am-Baptism

Santa Soledad
Sunday: 7:30am

PROTESTANT

Born Again Christian (Upper Room Int'l Ministries), Saipan
Wednesday Prayer and Healing Night: 8-10:30pm
Saturday Tagalog Service: 8-10:30pm
Sunday English Service: 9:30-11am
Sunday School for Children: 10-11am
Sunday Filipino Service: 7-9pm

Calvary Baptist Church, Saipan
Sunday School: 9am
Sunday Morning Worship: 10am
Sunday Evening Worship: 6pm
Wednesday Prayer Service: 7pm

Chinese Christian Church of Saipan
Worship Services: Sunday, 10am and 7:30pm
Bible Study: Tuesday-Friday, 9:25pm

Cornerstone Christian Church, Saipan
Worship/Study Opportunities
Adult Sunday School: 9am
Youth Sunday School: 9am
English Worship Service Sunday: 10am
Sunday Service: 5:30pm
Worship/Fellowship Sunday: 9:30pm
Evangelism/Follow-up: Sunday/Monday: 1:30/7:30pm
Worship Team: Monday/Saturday-9pm;
Cell Groups Tuesday: 7:30pm
Mid-week Service: 7:30pm
Prayer Meeting Wednesday: 7:30pm
Leader's Bible Study Friday: 7:30 pm
Cornerstone School of Ministry Saturday: 7:30pm

Episcopal/Anglican Church on Saipan
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Worship Service Sunday: Holy Communion 9:00am
Place: Vicarage, Chalan Laulau,
Call 235-0545 for directions

Grace Christian Assembly, Saipan
Worship Service: 9am
GBI Classes: 4-6pm
Prayer Meeting: Monday-Saturday: 6am
Sunday: 7am
Home Cell Bible Study: Wednesday-Friday: 7pm
Youth Service: Friday: 5:30pm

Iglesia Ni Cristo, Saipan
Wednesday: 7:45pm (Tagalog)
Thursday: 5:30am (English); 7:45 pm (English)
Saturday: 5:30am (Tagalog); 7:45pm (Tagalog)
Sunday: 6:45am (English)
Children Worship Service: Sunday, 9am (English)

Immanuel United Methodist Church Koblerville
Sunday Services
9:00 AM
Place of the church-next to Mt. Carmel Cathedral on Chalan Kanoa Dr. • Tel: 322-6158
Pastor JJ Matsumoto

Immanuel Methodist Church (Filipino Congregation)
Sunday: 7:00am-Choir Rehearsal
8:00am-Church Service (Tagalog)
9:15am-Sunday School
Wednesday: 6:30pm, home group
8:00pm-Prayer Meeting
Thursday: 7:30pm-Choir Practice (Church)
Saturday: 8:00pm-Choir Practice (Parsonage)

Jesus is Lord Church, Saipan
English Service: 9-11am, Sunday
Tagalog Service: 6-8pm, Sunday

Korean Presbyterian Church, Saipan
Sunday School: 8:20am
Sunday Adult: 10am
Sunday Adult: 11:30am
Sunday Evening: 7:30pm
Wednesday: 8pm

Life in the Son Christian Fellowship, Saipan
Sunday Worship Service: 10am–12noon
Tuesday: Leadership Institute 7pm-10pm
Wednesday: Corporate prayer 7pm-8pm
Last Friday of the month-prayer: 7pm-11pm
Friday: Youth on Fire: 7pm-9pm
Tel. No. 235-LIFE (5433)

Marianas Baptist Church, Saipan
English Worship Service: 9-10:30am
Evening Worship Service: 6-7pm
Children Sunday School: 9-10:30am
Tagalog Sunday School: 11am-12pm
English Sunday School: 11am-12pm
Korean Worship Service: 11am-12pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting:
English, 7pm-8pm
Korean: 8:30pm-9:30pm

Missions Connection Ministry
Every Sunday Celebrations:
10am (English), 6pm (Tagalog)
Wednesday Bible Study: 7pm
Youth Impact Friday: 7pm
Saturday Prayer Meeting: 7pm

Northern Marianas Christian Church
Sunday Worship Service 10am Fina Sisu Housing FS#1 (Child care will be provided)
Friday Services @ 7pm Fina Sisu FS#1 for more info pls. contact Ryan 484-2620

Saipan Bible Fellowship Church
Sunday School: 9:30-10am
Divine Worship: 10am-11:30am
Evening Service: 7pm-8:30pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting: 8pm-9pm

Saipan Christian Church
Sunday: 7:30am-10am
Sunday: 6:30 pm -9pm
Monday: 8 pm -10pm (Prayer Meeting)
Thursday: 8pm-10pm (Cell Groups)

Saipan Church of Christ
Sunday Bible Class: 9am
Sunday Worship: 10am
Sunday Worship English: 6pm
Sunday Worship Tagalog: 7pm
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:30pm

Saipan Community Church
(Sunday Services)
Palau Service: 7:30am-9am
English Service: 10am-11:30am
Chuukese Service: 1pm-2:30pm
Filipino Service: 5:00pm-7:00pm

Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Saipan
(Saturday Church Services)
Sabbath School Program: 9-10am
Lesson Study: 10-10:40am
Divine Service: 11-12pm
Visitation: 3-4pm
Adventist Youth Program: 4:30-5:30pm
Sundown Worship: 6-7pm

First Baptist Church
(Formerly Saipan Baptist Church)
Afetna St., San Antonio

Sunday		
	9am	Sunday school
	10am	Regular worship
	6pm	worship
Wednesday		
	7pm	worship

Everyone is warmly welcome to attend our worship services. Transportation is readily available to anyone who needs a ride to our church. For further information, please call Pastor David M. Mclure at 234-1939/235-7779.

Thy Word Ministries Saipan Faith Center
Phone 234-0209
New Christian Charismatic Church Service located in Chalan Paio, Beach Road in the Sablan building on the 2nd floor above Subway Sandwiches.
Senior Pastors: George & Gail Kamakahi
Asst. Pastors: Eric & Penny Sakaguchi
Service Times
Sunday 10:00am Worship Service
Sunday 7pm Discipleship Classes
Tuesday 10:00am Bible Studies
Tuesday 6:00pm Intercessory Prayer
Tuesday 7:00pm Music Practice
Wednesday 7:00pm Mid-Week Service
Saturday 10:00am Evangelism

Upper Room International Ministries

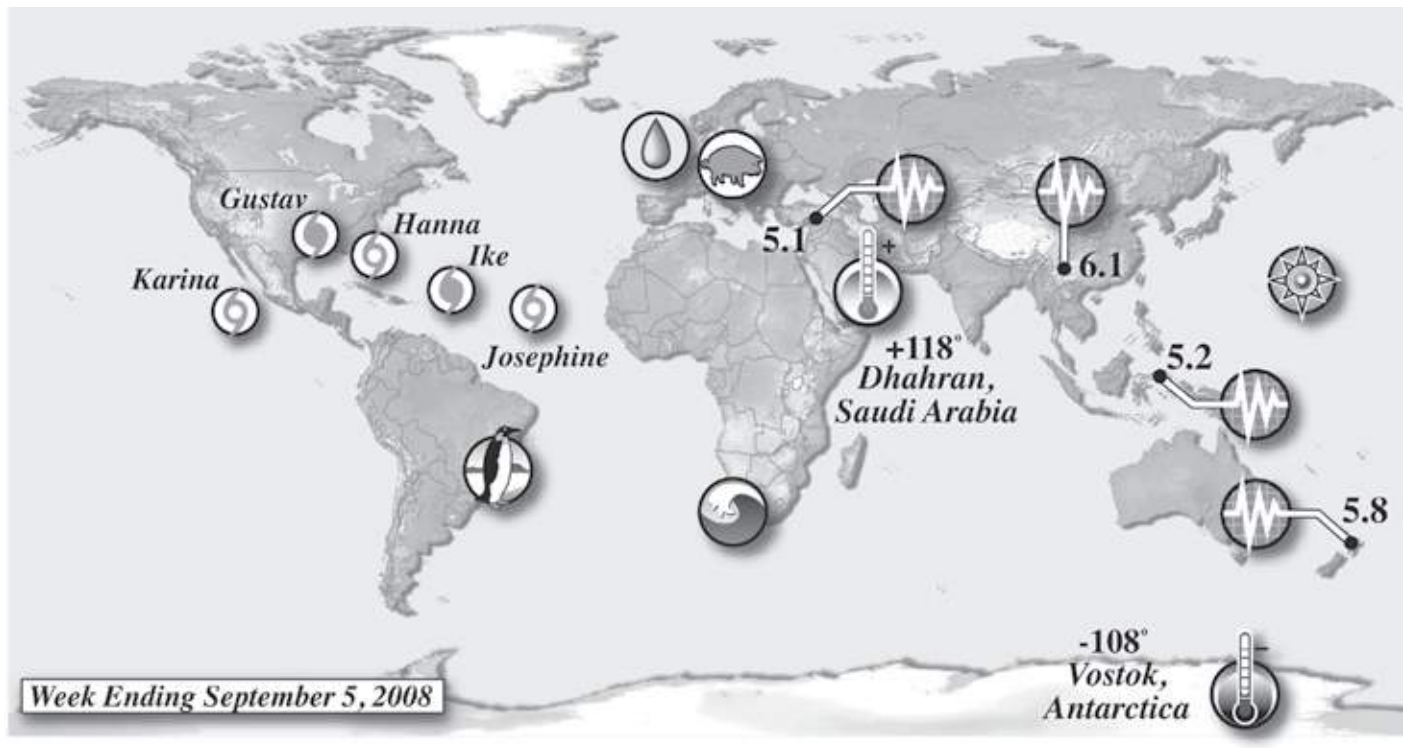
Sunday	5:30am-6:30am	
Morning prayer		
	7am-9am	English service
	7am-9am	Sunday school
	10am-12noon	English service, Koblerville
Wednesday	7pm-9pm	Prayer meeting
Saturday	7pm-9pm	Tagalog service

Venue: Jason Presbyterian Church
Gualo Rai, Saipan

Victory Chapel Christian Fellowship Church
Sunday School: 9:30am
Sunday AM Worship:10:30am
Sunday PM Worship:7:00am
Wed Worship: 7:30pm
Prayer 45 min. Prior to Service Times
Morning Prayer: 6-8am M-S

Earthweek: A Diary of the Planet

By STEVE NEWMAN



Sunspot Drought

The surface of the sun nearly broke a 100-year record by coming very close to not producing any sunspots during the entire month of August. The Solar Influences Data Analysis Center in Brussels detected a dark speck on Aug. 21 and 22 that was large enough to count as a sunspot. Only a small number of sunspots have been observed so far this year, suggesting that the sun is currently at a low point in an 11-year cycle of activity. Sunspots have been counted systematically since 1749, and as many as 100 or more can occur during a single month at the cycle's peak. A disturbing 50-year absence of sunspots in the 17th century, known as the Maunder Minimum, caused decades of cold weather known as the "Little Ice Age." Periods of inactivity are normal for the sun, but the current spot-free period has gone on much longer than usual. Scientists maintain that the next solar cycle is just "off to a slow start."

August Gloom

Unusual weather patterns in the eastern Atlantic caused Britain's least-sunny August since sunshine measurements began in 1929. The Met Office said that there were only 105.5 hours of sunshine during the month, far less than the normal 165.1 hours. The agency added it was also the fifth-wettest on record with an average of 5.5 inches of rain causing floods in some areas. There were a few exceptions to the dull end of summer. Lerwick in Shetland, as well as the Isle of Wight, were fortunate enough to receive about 130 percent of the average sunshine levels during the month. Meteorologists say that the usual area of high pressure that forms each summer near the Azores failed to develop this summer.

Brazil Penguin Deaths

More than 200 oil-covered penguins washed onto the beaches of Brazil's resort of Florianopolis in the latest in a series of penguin deaths that have occurred along the country's coast this year. An environmental official said the oil probably leaked from a large ship, which would be nearly impossible to identify due to the high volume of maritime traffic. Thousands of the birds have been found both dead and alive this year as far north as Brazil's Rio Grande do Norte state, near the equator.

Mini Tsunamis

Sudden changes in sea level off the Atlantic coasts of South Africa and Namibia in late August were most likely caused by undersea earthquakes triggering slumps (mudslides) on the ocean floor, according to South African researchers. One of the three abrupt tide changes observed within a six-hour period on Aug. 20 and 21 caused minor damage along the South African coast. Witnesses said the surge dragged a car into the sea and caused damage to coastal facilities at St. Helena Bay.

Tropical Cyclones

Hurricane Gustav's rampage across Louisiana left at least 10 people dead and an estimated $10 billion in damage. That is in addition to the 77 fatalities the storm caused in Haiti and 10 other deaths in Jamaica. Former President Fidel Castro described Gustav's damage to eastern Cuba as being like from "an atomic blast."

■ Hurricane Hanna took aim on the southeastern United States after leaving 61 dead in Haiti.

■ Hurricane Ike approached the Bahamas. Tropical Storm Josephine formed near the Cape Verde Islands.

■ Tropical Storm Karina briefly swirled off Mexico's Pacific coast.

Earthquakes

At least 38 people were killed and 500 others injured by the latest temblor to rock China's quake-weary Sichuan-Yunnan border region. The 6.1 magnitude quake occurred along the same fault as a May 12 temblor that killed up to 87,000 people.

■ A magnitude 5.1 quake in southwest Turkey's Adiyaman province damaged some buildings, but there were no reports of injuries.

■ Earth movements were also felt in New Zealand's North Island and Indonesia's Sulawesi Island.

Swiss Animal Rights

Strict new laws that went into effect across Switzerland on Sept. 1 have some wondering if legislators have overreached in efforts to safeguard the animal kingdom. It is now illegal to flush live goldfish down the toilet. The law stipulates that they must first be knocked out and killed before being disposed of. Fishermen may no longer practice catch-and-release fishing, and the use of live bait is prohibited. Pets such as parrots and hamsters may no longer be kept by themselves, and livestock such as sheep and goats must have at least "a visual contact with their fellows," under the new law. Dog owners are now required to take classes to learn how to keep their pets from biting. Even with regulations saying that pigs have the legal right to shower and freshen up after rolling in mud, the country's leading animal rights group, STS, says the new law doesn't go far enough.

Distributed by: Universal Press Syndicate
www.earthweek.com
© MMVIII Earth Environment Service

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Mass. police arrest pair wearing stolen clothing

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. (AP)—Police say two Springfield residents who cleared a downtown clothing store of its entire inventory were easy to nab—they were arrested wearing some of the stolen clothing with price tags still attached. Sergeant John Delaney said police were alerted by a local resident who saw the suspects repeatedly walk in and out of Mr. S. Lee's Clothing store's rear entrance carrying boxes and bags. The suspects were arrested after a short foot chase. Delaney said the stolen merchandise is worth "tens of thousands" of dollars.

Boy doles out hundreds of fake $20 bills at school

OCALA, Fla. (AP)—Authorities say an 8-year-old boy was handing out hundreds of dollars in fake $20 bills at an Ocala elementary school. School officials reported the boy to police on Tuesday. The fake bills were discovered when a child tried to use one to pay for lunch. An administrator then tracked down several other students with fake bills. Those students all identified the boy. The boy—who was not identified—was turned over to the Department of Children and Families after authorities learned his guardians had warrants for their arrest. In all, the counterfeit money added up to 44 notes or $880. Police say they don't know who produced the fake currency.

Man accused of making license plate 'disappear'

NEW YORK (AP)—New York authorities didn't see this one coming. The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey says the driver of a tractor-trailer rigged the front license plate of his vehicle so that it would "disappear" as he drove through a toll plaza, allowing him to avoid paying the $40 fee. The Port Authority said driver Orlando Payano ran a cable from the license plate to the dashboard cigarette lighter inside the cab of the vehicle. Pulling on the lighter flipped the plate under the truck. Cameras are used to capture images of license plates to identify fare beaters. Payano told the Daily News that he didn't have "any cable or anything" and that "it's not true."

Hafa Adai!

SUNDAY

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XVIII, Issue No. 251 | SEPTEMBER 7, 2008 | www.saipantribune.com | 50¢

Visit us online @ www.saipantribune.com

OPINION METER

This week's poll:
Should PSS put off the start of classes to mid-September when the power situation is expected to stabilize?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

9 DAYS until Sept. 16, when Aggreko generators are to start working

INSIDE

Hacienda
The Santa Monica house is a simple ranch, its seven archways formed of fat bricks salvaged from an old kiln.

GOOD HOUSEKEEPING... Page 10

Jenny, 55

The oldest gorilla in captivity, a 55-year-old female named Jenny, has died at the Dallas Zoo.

NATION...Page 18

'RocknRolla'
Crime just never stops paying for Guy Ritchie.

LIFE & STYLE...Page 22

"If these people are picked up by Immigration, they will be deported."
— Deanne Siemer, Labor administrative hearing officer

'950 alien workers unaccounted for'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

There are about 950 alien workers in the CNMI who could not be accounted for and are considered overstayers, according to a CNMI Labor Department official

Deanne Siemer, volunteer consultant and Labor administrative hearing officer, said these 950 people came to the CNMI legally and are still here, but they do not have current status to remain and have been published as overstayers.

"If these people are picked up by Immigration, they will be deported," she said.

See UNACCOUNTED on Page 4

'SADO URASENKE TANKO-KAI' JACQUELINE HERNANDEZ
Buddhist priest Sano Taiten offers a tea prepared by Japanese traditional tea ceremony association youth division president Veda Yoshiro, far left, for the souls of all World War II victims during the tea ceremony or Sado Urasenke Tanko-kai Memorial Ceremony at the Last Command Post in Marpi Saturday morning. The 32-member group from Kyoto arrived on Saipan Friday and is set to depart the island on Sept 9. Other picture shows female members of the Tanko-kai, clad in traditional Japanese kimono, offering incense and prayers for the souls of all WWII victims.

SAT scores stay at lowest level

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP)— For a second straight year, SAT scores for the most recent high school graduating class remained at the lowest level in nearly a decade, a trend attributed to a record number of students now taking the test.

The 1.52 million students who took the test is a slight increase from last year but a jump of nearly 30 percent over the past decade. Minority students accounted for 40 percent of test-takers, and 36 percent were the first in their families to attend college. Nearly one in seven had a low enough family income to take the test for free.

See MORE on Page 4

'Saipan's water is salty but drinkable'

By KRISTI EATON
kristi_eaton@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Water produced by the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has more sodium chloride, commonly known as salt, than recommended, but it is still safe to drink, said Derek Chambers, an Environmental Protection Agency adviser to the Division of Environmental Quality who works within the Safe Drinking Water branch.

"It's safe to drink; it just might not taste good," he said.

See WATER on Page 4

Chin-Seid rally draws 300 Palauans on Saipan. **PAGE 2**
L.A. judge hears arguments on Miura murder case. **PAGE 3**

Making a case for baskets

By TERRI SAPIENZA
(C) 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

When it comes to corralling clutter, few storage solutions are better (or more appealing) than baskets.

"They're so versatile," says Maryland-based designer and shop owner Dennese Guadaloupe-Rojas, "and they provide a nice visual element as well."

But it's not only form and function that make these containers popular with designers; they're affordable, too. They can:

■ Hold magazines, remotes, plants or fireplace wood in a family room.

■Help create an edible and decorative display of fruits, vegetables or bread in a kitchen or neatly contain utensils and napkins on a table.

■Store extra pillows, blankets or books in a bedroom.

■Keep soap, towels or toilet paper handy in a powder room.

■Provide a pleasing receptacle for recyclables.

■Attractively accommodate a deluge of dirty shoes and wet boots in an entry way or offer a suitable spot for keeping keys near the front door.

And, of course, they're perfect in a playroom. "They're a nice way to separate the hard toys from the soft toys," Guadaloupe-Rojas says.

No need for extra storage? The wide assortment of shapes, sizes, colors and textures make baskets a perfect proxy for furniture pieces and decorative accessories, too.

■ ■ ■ ■

Product info:

- Ethnic weave bamboo decor basket and pet basket, with fabric over cushion, by Hable Construction, not included ($20 each) at World Market stores and www.worldmarket.com
- Nile desk basket (medium, $12), market basket (large, $50) and round garden basket (large, $60) at Mitchell Gold and Bob Williams stores and www.mgandbw.com
- Thomas O'Brien rattan round tray ($19) at Target and www.target.com
- French shopping basket ($30) at Eco Bags and www.ecobags.com
- Oval palm leaf basket ($59) at Container Store and www.containerstore.com
- Pedestaled PJAS basket ($13) at Ikea and www.ikea.com
- Tall rattan laundry hamper ($175) at Timothy Paul Bedding and Home and www.timothypaulbedding.com
- Magazine holder (with loops, $275) at Sweet-Grass Baskets and www.sweetgrassbaskets.com
- Rattan linen basket ($75) at Waterworks, www.waterworks.com.

Making a case for baskets. Clockwise from top: Ethnic weave bamboo decor basket ($20 at World Market), Mitchell Gold and Bob Williams' Nile desk ($12, medium) and market baskets ($50, large), Thomas O'Brien rattan round tray ($19 at Target), Eco Bags' French shopping basket ($30), Container Stores' oval palm leaf basket ($59), pet basket ($20 at World Market), Mitchell Gold and Bob Williams' round garden basket ($60, large), Ikea's PJAS basket ($13), rattan laundry hamper ($175, at Timothy Paul Bedding and Home), magazine holder, with loops ($275, at Sweet-Grass Baskets), Waterworks' rattan linen basket ($75).

THE WASHINGTON POST

Gash mars kitchen floor

By SAMANTHA MAZZOTTA
(C) 2008 KING FEATURES SYND., INC.

Q: We just closed on a house that the previous owner had to sell in a hurry to avoid foreclosure. One thing that came as-is is the kitchen floor; there's a large gash cut in the vinyl through the center of the kitchen, and the plywood underneath is showing. Should I just glue this down for now? Is it OK to have plywood beneath the vinyl? Thanks—Hannah L., Tampa, Fla.

A: The plywood you see is part of the underlayment, which is the intermediary between the floor joists and the flooring surface on which you walk (in this case, the vinyl). When building a modern house, sheets of plywood make up the base of the floors. These are usually (but not always) topped with a thin layer of padding, followed by carpet, tile or vinyl sheeting.

Underlayment is quite sturdy and, as long as it is not damaged or wet, can last many years.

A thin cut in vinyl sheeting, as long as the edges still meet, can be quickly reglued so that the cut is not noticeable. If the gash in the vinyl sheeting is jagged or the edges are curling back from the cut, you'll probably have to patch or replace the sheet.

As you've just moved in, now might be a good time to consider replacing the vinyl sheet. You can roll out new sheeting or spring for a different floor covering such as vinyl or ceramic tile. It's also a prime opportunity to inspect the underlayment and make sure it is dry, firm and undamaged.

HOME TIP: A small gouge or tear in vinyl flooring can be patched quickly with a bit of clear shellac or varnish. To match the floor's color, mix shavings of matching vinyl from a scrap piece into the varnish and dab the paste on.

Send questions or home-repair tips to homeguru2000@hotmail.com, or write This Is a Hammer, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

KITCHEN MAGIC

Peach Clafouti

This country-French dessert pancake typically calls for cherries but is just as delicious with peaches and almonds. We love the puffy golden treat warm with whipped cream.

3 medium (about 1 pound) ripe peaches, peeled and sliced
3 large eggs
1 cup half-and-half or light cream
3/4 cup all-purpose flour
6 tablespoons margarine or butter, melted and cooled
2 tablespoons almond-flavor liquor
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
1/8 teaspoon salt
1/3 cup (plus additional 2 tablespoons, per recipe) sugar
1/4 cup sliced natural almonds

1. Preheat oven to 400 F. Grease shallow 2-quart casserole or baking dish. Arrange peach slices evenly in casserole.

2. In blender, combine eggs, half-and-half, flour, melted margarine or butter, almond liqueur, vanilla, salt and 1/3 cup sugar; blend until smooth.

3. Pour batter over peaches; sprinkle with almonds and remaining 2 tablespoons sugar.

4. Bake clafouti 35 to 40 minutes or until puffed and golden brown. Cool on wire rack 15 minutes (clafouti will deflate as it cools). Serve warm. Serves 8.

(c) 2008 Hearst Communications, Inc.

Magic 100
SAIPANCELL COMMUNICATIONS
The Choice is Clear.
SAN MIGUEL BEER
PRESENT
THE SINGING @ CLUB X ®
Tuesday BARKADA NIGHT Special
Featuring the
7th SIDE
Hosted by DJ ZYRA and DJ RV
"If you can't sing it, just say it"
Two ways to join the newest and the first singing game show in Saipan:
1. By texting your NAME, AGE, and OCCUPATION and send it to 25828 (Club V). 25 cents will be charged. 6 contestants will be chosen from texters every week. Exclusive for Saipancell Subscribers. 10 texters will be chosen to avail of the free Club V entrance.
2. By coming to Club V on Tuesdays and paying the $5 cover charge with two complimentary drinks. 4 contestants will be chosen from the crowd every week. Doors open at 8:30pm.
Weekly winner has a chance to WIN a total of $350 worth of GC's and CASH PRIZES!
In cooperation with MACATANGAY Dermhealth Saipan SKIN CARE SPECIALIST
SGH Saipan Grand Hotel A TanHoldings Company
For inquiries call 2856616
Another Exciting Offer from the Grand!

The Good Life

THE WASHINGTON POST

Swimmers enjoy the waterfalls and rapids on the Little Patuxent River at the Savage Mill swimming hole in Maryland. Photographer Sarah L. Voisin used a plastic Holga camera with 120mm black-and-white film; the unreliable exposures and light leaks are part of the charm of using toy cameras.

Diving into the mystic waters of memory

By BRIGID SCHULTE
(C) 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

Shhh. Listen. A half-mile clamber up a steep trail of smooth boulders, a trickle of crystal-clear water spills over a wide, flat rock into a silent pool. The unbroken surface reflects a grove of arching pine trees swaying in a gentle late-summer breeze. The smell is distinctive. Fresh. With a hint of mud.

Welcome to the Mountain Run swimming hole. It's the kind of place Tom Hillegass has spent more than a decade looking for. He wades in. The water is cold enough to take his breath and numb his legs and deep enough to disappear into.

Perfect.

Or at least, according to his scale, an 8.5 out of 10.

"It's like being embraced by nature," he says. "Or about as close to an embrace as you can get."

Hillegass, a retired Department of Transportation civil engineer who for 12 years has run the Web site swimmingholes.org out of his Alexandria, Va., home, is about as close to being an expert on swimming holes in America as one can get. And with the swimming hole a fixture in the nation's mythical identity since at least the times of Mark Twain, that's saying a lot.

The first thing Hillegass wants people to know in this age of square concrete pools with chlorinated water and plastic splash parks with whistle-wielding lifeguards at every turn is that swimming holes still exist. There are not as many as before because cities and suburbs have swallowed up rural areas, and developers and landowners have fenced off beloved haunts. And the ones left are often so far from cities that people don't visit them like they did in more innocent times, when Twain lazed the summer away with every other kid his age at Bear Creek in Hannibal, Mo. But they're there, waiting to be found again.

There are the more-isolated swimming spots favored by hikers and outdoor types, such as Mountain Run, which can be found amid a confusing tangle of country lanes and gravel fire roads near Harrisonburg, Va. There are fathomless quarries with Tarzan vines and zip lines.

"Let go, Morgan!" friends screamed at white-bikini-clad Morgan Collins, 14, last weekend as she clung to the rope at Milford Mill quarry outside Baltimore and swung perilously close to the jagged rock wall. Eyes wide, she released the rope at the last minute and hung in the air for a beat before flopping and screaming into the greenish water.

There are clothing-optional swimming holes. Gay- and lesbian-leaning

THE WASHINGTON POST

Christian Romero, 13, of Hyattsville, Md., uses goggles to get a close look at the bottom of the Little Patuxent River at the Savage Mill swimming hole in Maryland. Photographer Sarah L. Voisin used a plastic Holga camera with 120mm black-and-white film.

holes. Family-friendly holes with rock ledges and the iconic rope swing that Hillegass always feels obliged to try. And holes where, as in Twain's time, nearly everyone in town can be found on a hot Saturday afternoon.

The Blue Hole of Bergton, in the Shenandoah Valley near the West Virginia line, is that kind of swimming hole. At least in late June and early July, when the water's running high. But on a Saturday in late August, after a long dry summer, the creek had slowed to a trickle, and only April Chacon, 23, her boyfriend and her three daughters were splashing in the water. Wayne Hall, 24, had just returned home after being away for a few years, and this was the first place he wanted to come.

"I think I can jump," Hall said, eyeing the cliffs and unusually shallow swimming hole, where the girls were dog paddling. "I used to jump when it was only five feet deep."

"Yeah, because you're crazy," Chacon snorted.

The two remember spending summer weekends at Blue Hole as high school students in nearby Broadway, Va., population 2,192. Chacon, and everyone else she knew, came there instead of the pool. "I think of the water as cleaner," she said, standing on the river-rock beach. "I guess it's just kind of what you've growed up on."

Finding swimming holes these days takes work. Until Hillegass, their locations were just part of local lore, often closely guarded secrets available only to insiders. The location of other swimming holes, such as a spot off Violet's Lock on the Potomac River, traveled by word of mouth through the kayak and canoeing communities.

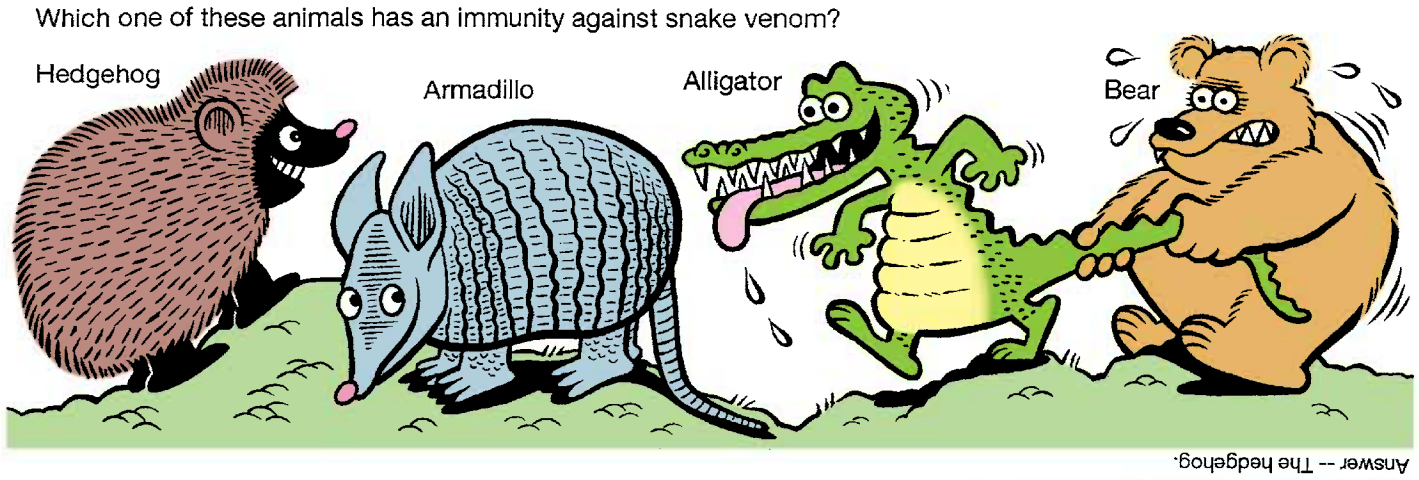
"Urban people don't know where these rural places are," Hillegass said. "In some cases, that's better."

Even with Hillegass' careful Global

See DIVING on Page 17

Bob Weber Jr.'s Slylock Fox and Comics for Kids

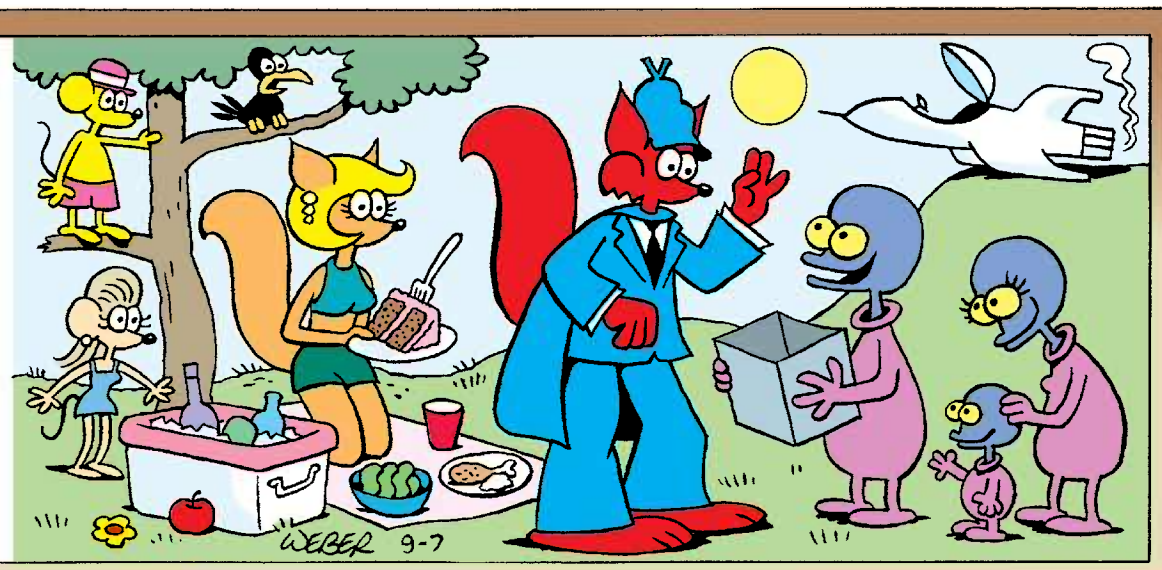
Which one of these animals has an immunity against snake venom?



Answer -- The hedgehog.

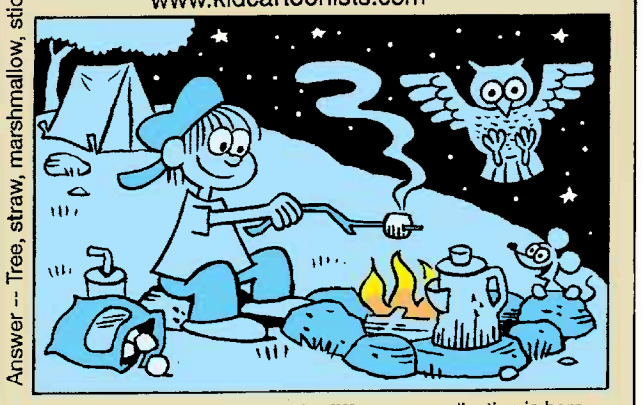
A family of aliens landed to supplement their food supply. The space travelers' next stop is a planet 25 light years away, so they are looking for a food that will not spoil. Slylock Fox knows of a sweet, tasty treat that will satisfy their need. What did Slylock suggest?

Answer -- Slylock suggested honey. If stored in an airtight container, honey will not spoil.



Find six differences between these panels.

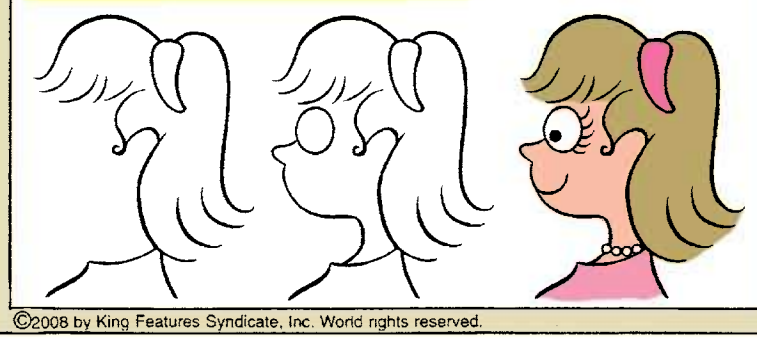
www.kidcartoonists.com



Answer -- Tree, straw, marshmallow, stick, star and rock.

New! The fourth **Find the six differences** collection is here. Send $4 (check/money order in U.S. funds made payable to King Features) with your name and address to **Six Differences No. 4,** P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

HOW TO DRAW a young lady



©2008 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.

YOUR DRAWING

Today's terrific artist is Tracey Miller, age 8, of Houston, Texas

Submit your drawings at **www.kidcartoonists.com**

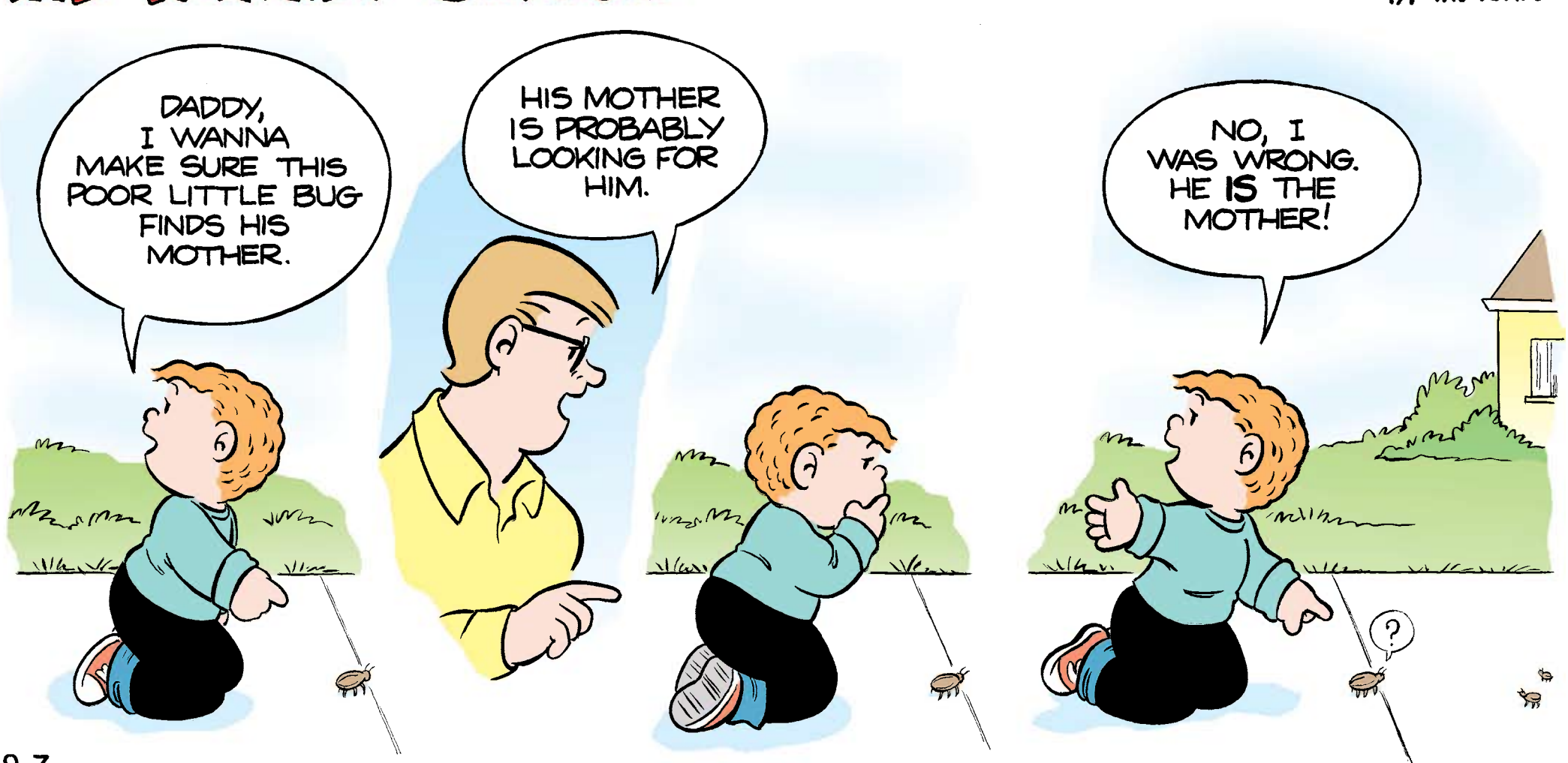
Which color has a calming effect on people?

a) Green
b) Red
c) Orange
d) Blue

Answer -- d) The color blue causes the brain to release calming hormones.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS®

By Bil Keane


DADDY, I WANNA MAKE SURE THIS POOR LITTLE BUG FINDS HIS MOTHER.
HIS MOTHER IS PROBABLY LOOKING FOR HIM.
NO, I WAS WRONG. HE IS THE MOTHER!
?

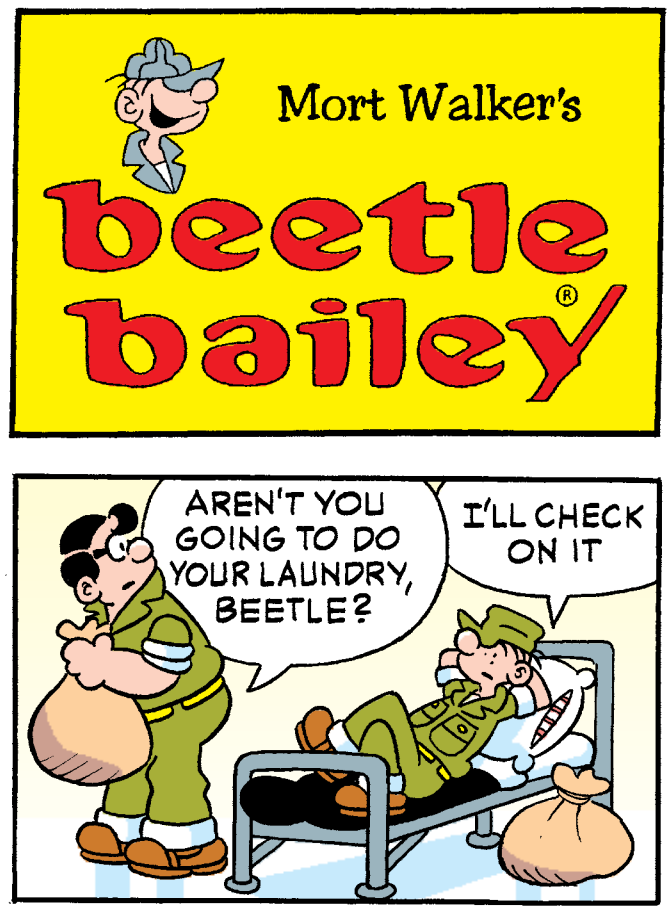
9-7

©2008 BIL KEANE INC., DIST. by KING FEATURES SYND.

WWW.FAMILYCIRCUS.COM

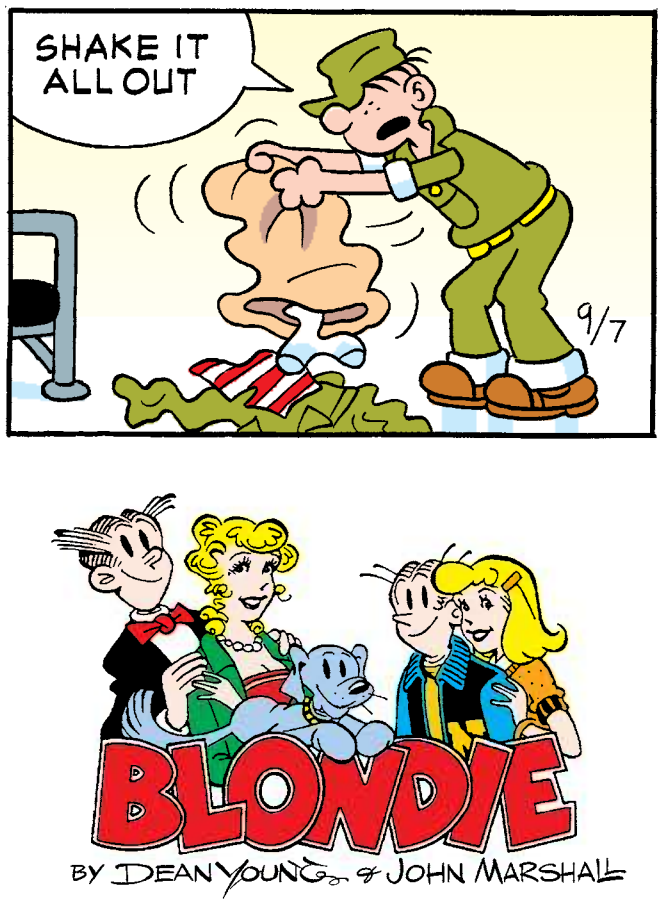
JEFF and Bil KEANE

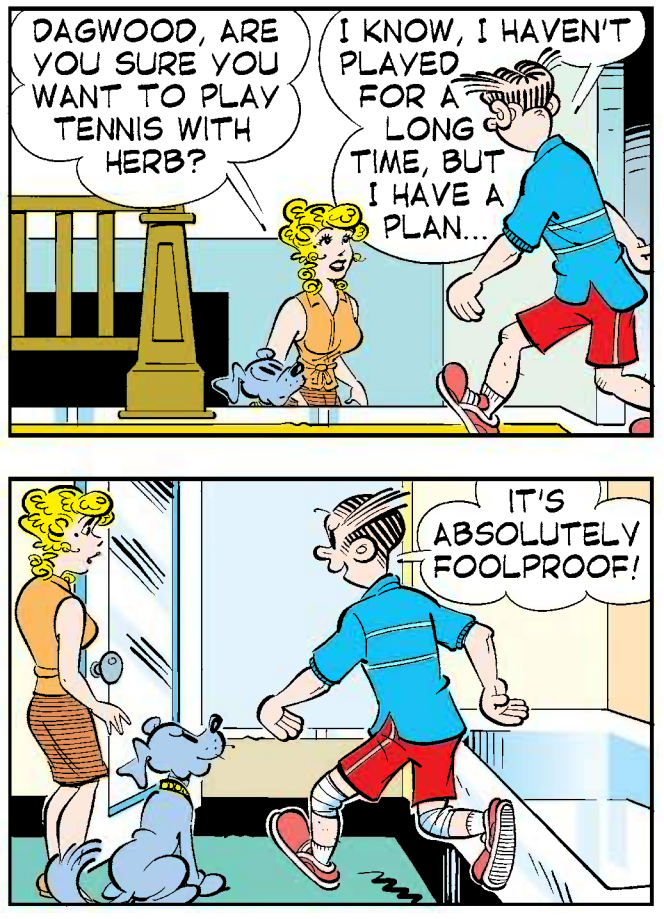
Mort Walker's beetle bailey®


SOMETHING STINKS IN HERE!
ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT THE LONG HIKES? K.P.? GUARD DUTY? THE OBSTACLE COURSE?...
AREN'T YOU GOING TO DO YOUR LAUNDRY, BEETLE?
I'LL CHECK ON IT
IT DOESN'T LOOK TOO DIRTY
I'LL JUST LOOSEN THE DIRT
WWW.MORTWALKER.COM

BLONDIE

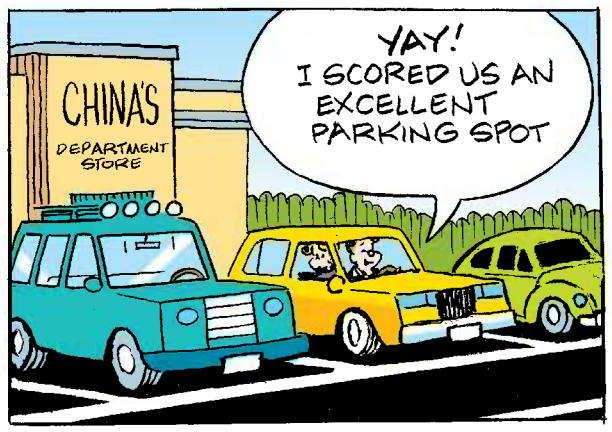
BY DEAN YOUNG & JOHN MARSHALL

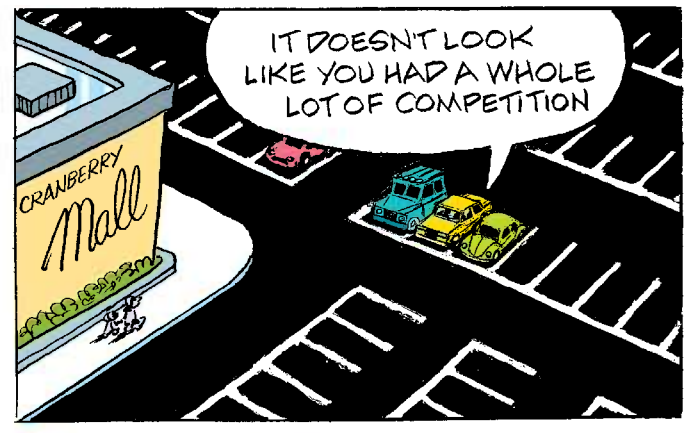

SHAKE IT ALL OUT
9/7
THEN LET IT AIR
I'M GIVING IT A SECOND CHANCE
GREG+ MORT WALKER
©2008 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.
I JUST WISH YOU WEREN'T SO COMPETITIVE, DEAR
I GUESS THAT'S JUST MY NATURE, HONEY
YOU KNOW I CAN NEVER BACK DOWN FROM A CHALLENGE

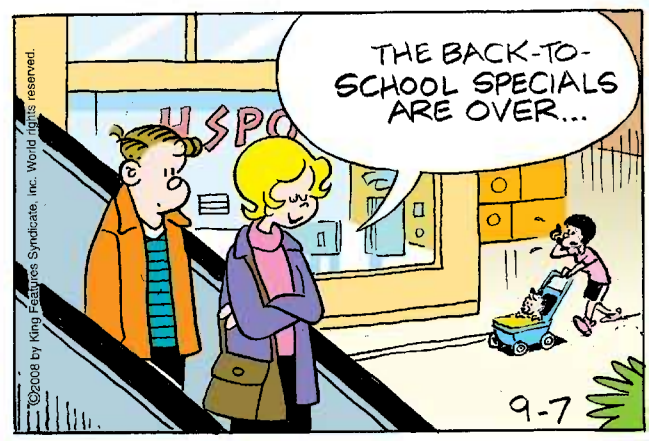

DAGWOOD, ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO PLAY TENNIS WITH HERB?
I KNOW, I HAVEN'T PLAYED FOR A LONG TIME, BUT I HAVE A PLAN...
www.blondie.com
I'M GONNA TAPE BOTH KNEES!
THIS WAY I WON'T HAVE TO JUMP AROUND VERY MUCH
SEE? IN CASE I LOSE, I CAN BLAME IT ON MY BUM KNEES!
9-7
IT'S ABSOLUTELY FOOLPROOF!
© 2008 King Features Syndicate Inc. World Rights Reserved.
DING-DONG
HEE! HEE! I'LL BET THAT'S HERB
YOUNG & MARSHALL

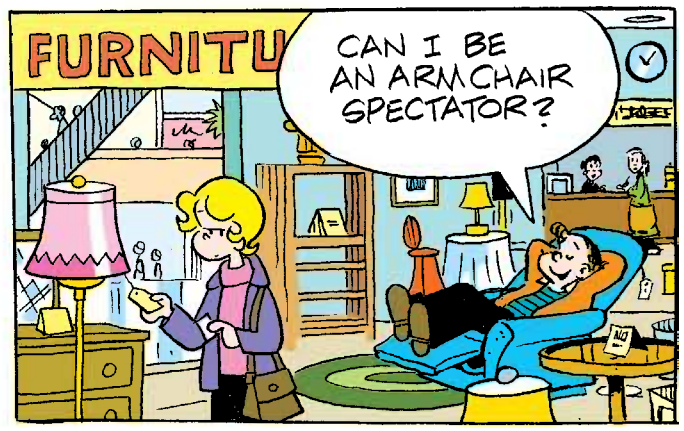
Hi and Lois

by BRIAN and GREG WALKER





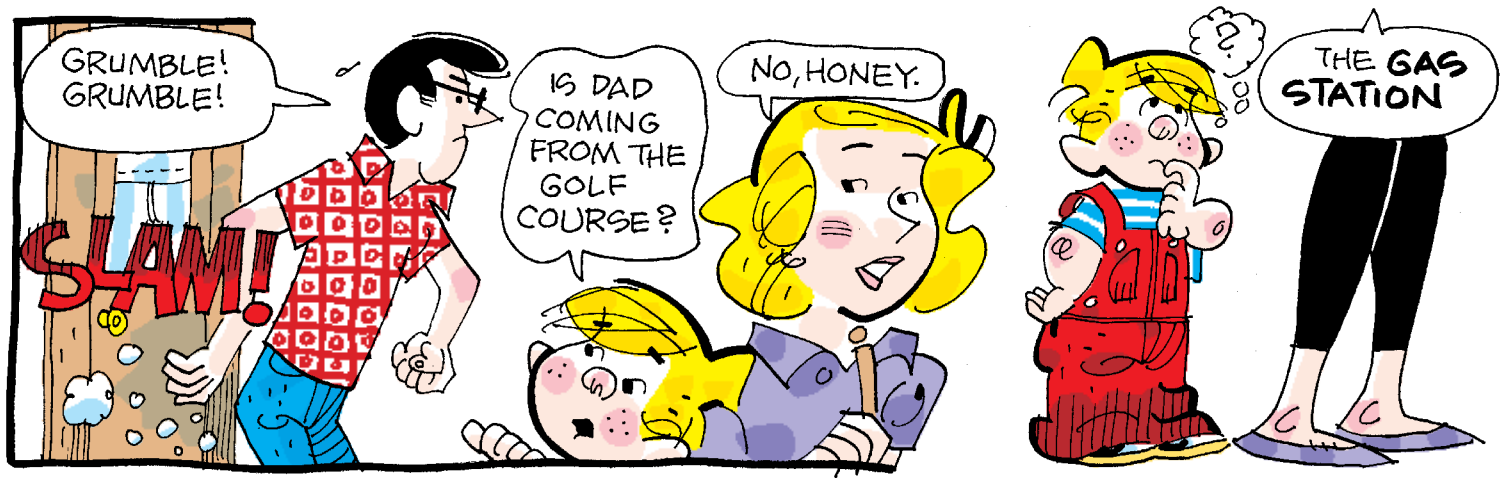


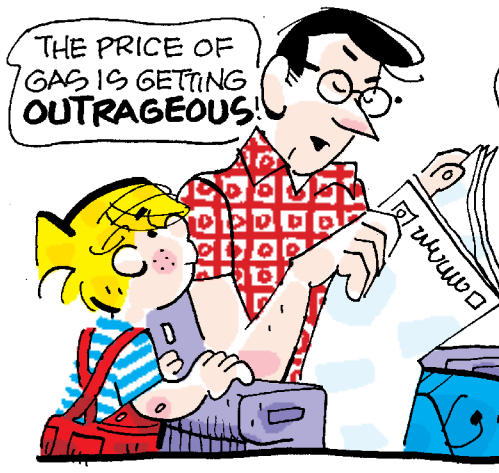


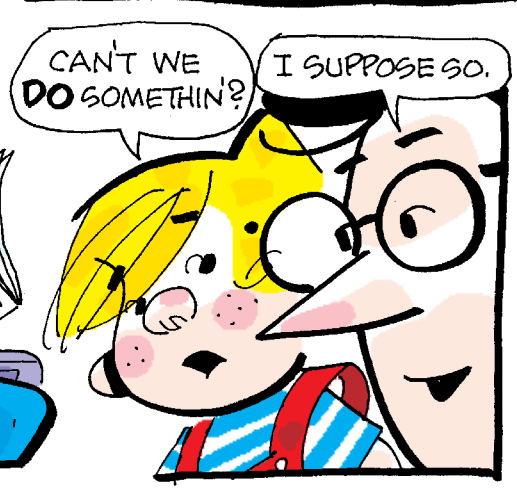
Dennis the Menace

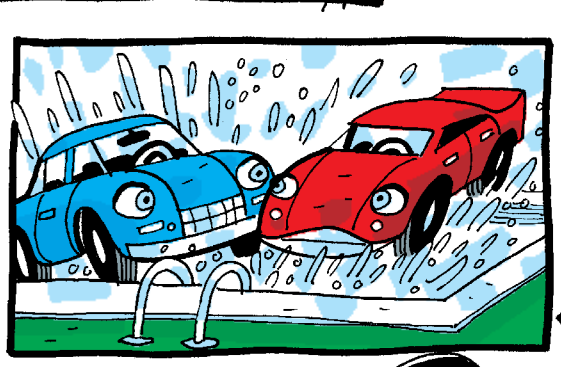
Hank Ketcham's

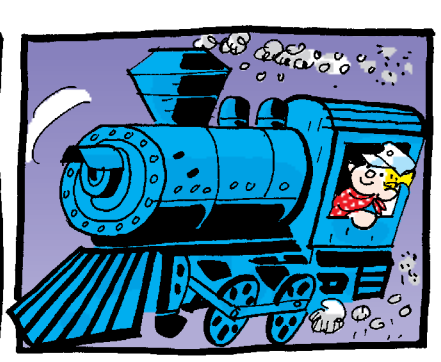
PUMPED UP!

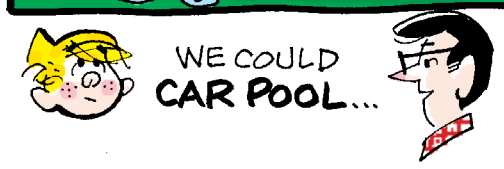


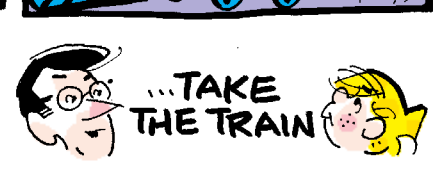


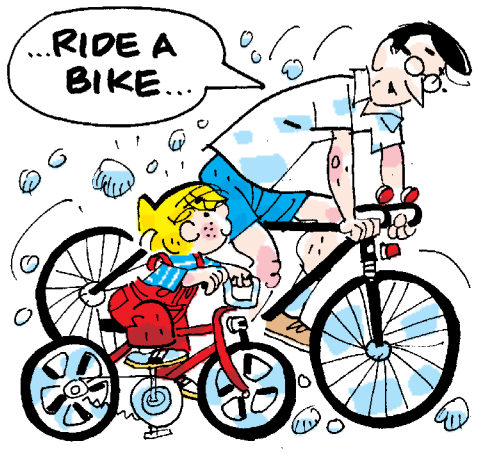


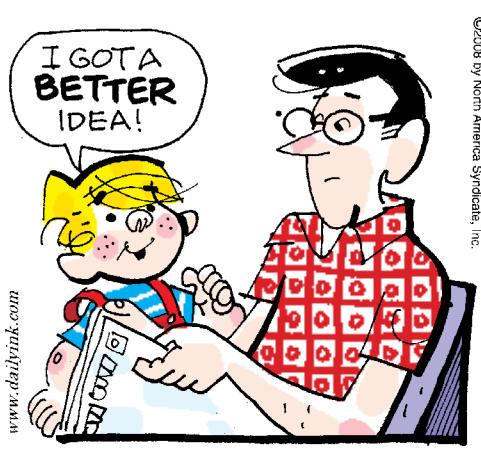


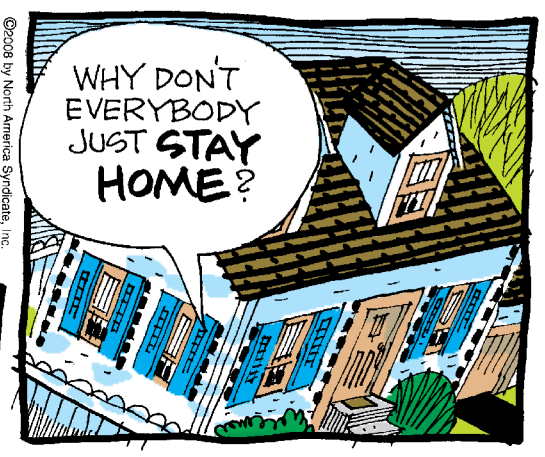












BABY BLUES™
BY RICK KIRKMAN & JERRY SCOTT
MOM, CAN I ASK YOU SOMETHING?
SURE, H.
DO YOU REMEMBER THE BIGGEST MESS ZOE AND I EVER MADE?
HMMM...
WAS IT THE TIME YOU DECIDED TO COLOR EASTER EGGS IN THE LIVING ROOM?
RIGHT!
WELL, I'M NOT MAKING ANY PROMISES, BUT TODAY MAY BE THE DAY WE SET A BRAND-NEW RECORD!
WELL, I PUT A POSITIVE SPIN ON IT. THE REST IS UP TO FATE.
©2008 BABY BLUES PARTNERSHIP DIST. BY KING FEATURES SYNDICATE
www.babyblues.com
Kirkman & Scott 9-7

Salome's Stars

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) A little "wool-gathering" for the usually productive Lamb is all right if it helps you unwind. But be careful; too much daydreaming can put you behind schedule in your work.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) A work problem is close to being resolved. Now you can go ahead and celebrate the week, accepting invitations from friends who enjoy your company.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Getting your new plan accepted won't be a major hassle if you have the facts to back it up. Your supporters are also prepared to help you make your case. Good luck.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Dealing with a pesky job problem might be time-consuming but necessary. The sooner you get this situation settled, the sooner you can move on to other matters.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Career advancement is favored thanks to your impressive work record. On the personal side, you should soon hear some good news about an ailing family member.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) There might be mixed signals from a certain someone who doesn't seem all that certain about his or her intentions. Best to sort it all out before it becomes more confusing.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Get all the facts about that investment "opportunity" before you put even one dollar into it. There could be hidden problems that could prove to be costly.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Compromising on a matter you feel strongly about not only ends the impasse, but can be a win-win deal for all. Remember: Scorpios do well with change.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) With all the demands you currently have to deal with, accepting the help of family and friends could be the wisest course to take at this time.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Recent upsetting incidents might have left you with a big gap in your self-assurance. Refill it by spending time with those who know how worthy you really are.

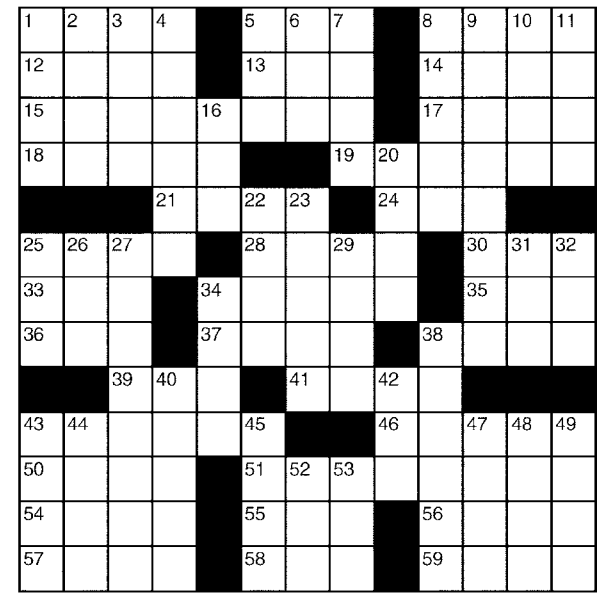
AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) A dispute about money needs to be resolved quickly, before it festers into something more serious. Consider asking an impartial colleague to mediate the matter.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) A soft approach could be more effective than making a loud demand for the information you need. You might even find yourself with more data than you expected.

BORN THIS WEEK: You're sought out for the wonderful advice you're able to offer to others. And sometimes you even take it yourself.

(c) 2008 King Features Synd., Inc.

King Crossword



ACROSS
1 Government agts.
5 Part of a roadie's load
8 Competent
12 Latin 101 word
13 Luau bowlful
14 Spruced up
15 Succotash ingredient
17 Profit
18 Where the action is
19 Actress Jackson
21 Boast
24 High mountain
25 Act mockingly
28 "There's Something About Mary" star
30 Peculiar
33 Worldwide work grp.
34 Name
35 Mainlander's memento
36 Solidify
37 Formerly
38 Profound
39 Listener
41 Listen to
43 Sarajevo's land
46 High-carb entree
50 Initial chip
51 Lucas saga
54 Ollie's pal
55 That girl
56 Needle case
57 Do mailroom work
58 Sweet potato
59 Shipwreck cause

DOWN
1 FDR's dog
2 Eastern potentate
3 Titled lady
4 Position
5 Mimic
6 Old bird of New Zealand
7 — -pong
8 Clarence, in "It's a Wonderful Life"
9 Tall, thin person
10 Deposited
11 Sicilian volcano
16 Prohibit
20 Lounge around
22 Valhalla VIP
23 Dorothy's antagonist
25 Leprechauns' dance
26 Hearty brew
27 Guiding principle
29 Sheltered
31 Sandra or Ruby
32 Pickpocket
34 Actress Spelling
38 Chest component
40 Concerning
42 Springtime abbr.
43 Low voice
44 Aware of
45 Wan
47 Fill till full
48 Verifiable
49 "Yeah, right!"
52 Afternoon affair
53 Branch

© 2008 King Features Synd., Inc.

top ten

ROCK DINOSAURS

1. Led Zeppelin
2. Iron Maiden
3. The Rolling Stones
4. Aerosmith
5. Pink Floyd
6. Ozzy Osbourne
7. The Who
8. Eric Clapton
9. Bob Dylan
10. U2

Source: Virgin Media

© 2008 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.

KING CROSSWORD LAST SUNDAY'S ANSWERS

A	P	E		G	A	M		C	R	I	E	D
B	U	R		I	D	I		H	A	R	R	Y
A	N	I		S	H	A	R	E	W	A	R	E
F	C	C		H	E	M	A	N				
T	H	A	W		R	I	M		S	H	U	N
			I	K	E		P	R	A	I	S	E
W	H	E	R	E			I	T	S	A	T	
H	O	N	E	Y	S		S	P	Y			
O	D	D	S		L	O	U		R	A	N	D
			C	O	N	G	E		L	E	E	
U	N	D	E	R	W	E	A	R		E	V	A
S	I	E	G	E		A	R	I		P	E	N
E	L	B	O	W		L	Y	E		H	R	S

DIVING

From Page 12

Positioning System-enhanced directions, it can take a long time to get to one. And the swimming has always carried a hint of danger. Hillegass warns on his Web site: "PLEASE NEVER, EVER: Dive headfirst (paralysis, death) ... Swim in upper pools of a waterfall (you wash over falls) ... Don't put your hands or feet into places you can't see (snake dangers.)" He notes drownings, bouts of poison ivy and reports of an amoeba found at the bottom of stagnant pool in Florida that can be lethal when it gets in the nasal passages.

It was these kinds of dangers that helped end the gauzy heyday of the swimming hole. Twain saw two playmates drown at Bear Creek and was twice dragged to shore nearly lifeless. Despite the likes of presidents Warren Harding and Herbert Hoover extolling the virtues of growing up at swimming holes, the murky, buggy places were soon replaced wholesale by swimming pools.

Chlorinated pools became popular on a large scale after the modern Olympic Games began in 1896. At the turn of the century, city fathers saw pools as a way to get street urchins out of rivers, swimming holes and creeks, keep them from view and get them clean. By the 1930s, pools became status symbols and marks of good parenting. A New York Times article of the period described the transformation of a popular pond into a community pool. "The parents of the children who swim there today show none of their ancestors' indifference to the typhoid bacillus. ... Concrete replaces the sides of clay and mud, and chemical treatment renders the water as harmless as that the city dweller turns into his tub."

Modern sanitation standards, the Times wrote, put most swimming holes out of business.

But the rocks, waterfalls and pools at Savage Mill, near Laurel, Md., can still draw the whole community.

Elisabeth Navarrete is 13. Since moving from El Salvador to Maryland last year to live with her father, she has come here for solace. She lives in a crowded apartment across the street. And though everyone from the surrounding apartment buildings congregates at the swimming hole, she can always find a place to think—about the mother she misses in her home country, the beaches, the parks, the freedom she had to go where she wanted. By the swimming hole, she says, she can breathe.

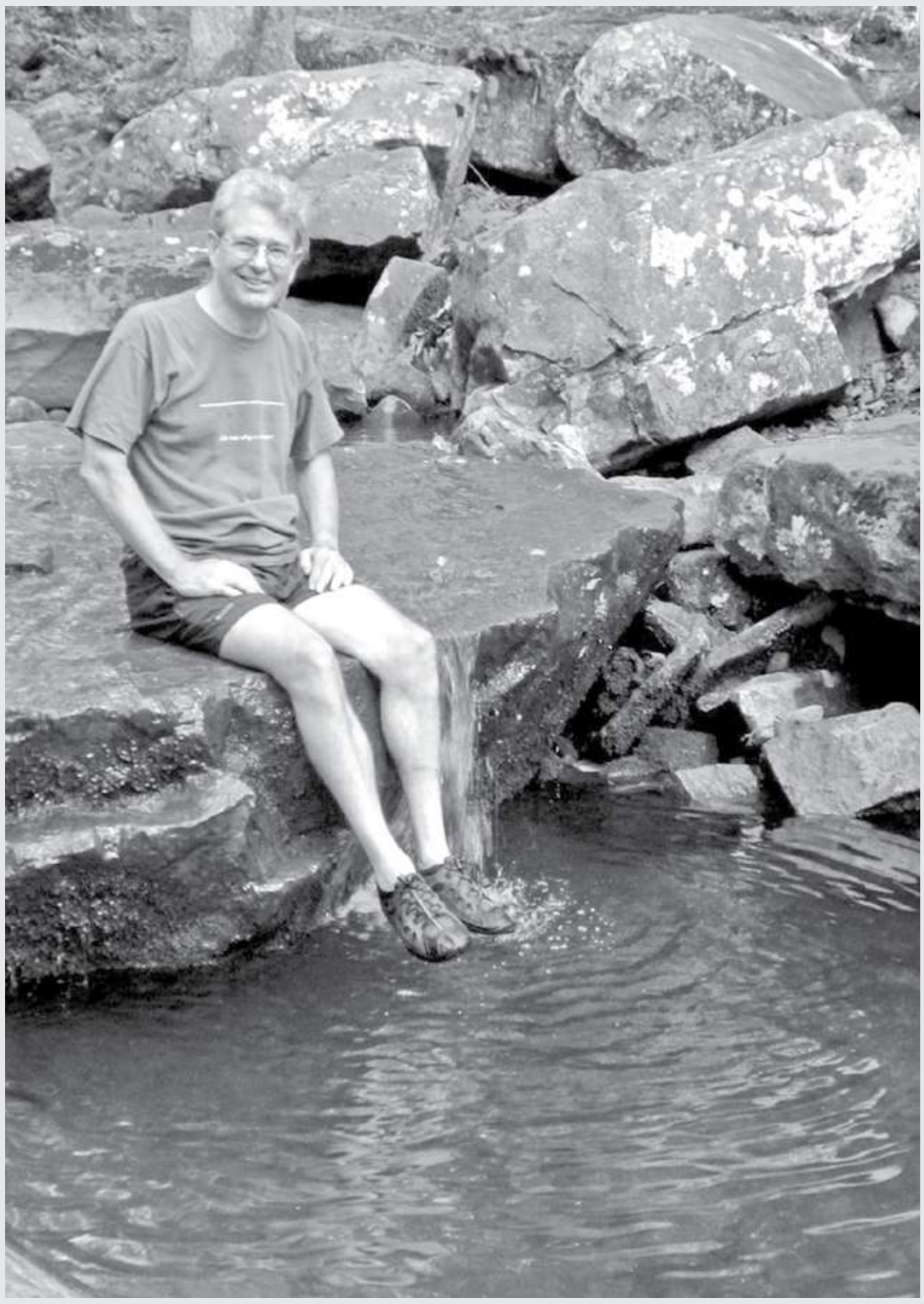
On one end of the beach, a man dips a frying pan into the river and saunters back to a driftwood fire to cook fish he had caught. Tinny salsa music from a Spanish-language station comes from his radio. Upstream, a family takes turns in a hammock strung between trees. Young boys head to pounding waterfalls as the sky turns pink.

Elisabeth didn't bring a suit or towel. She didn't plan to swim. And she frowns at the plastic bag and empty beer bottle floating on the water. But her one friend, from Puerto Rico, isn't answering her cellphone. She can't remember the name of the middle school she started that morning, and she didn't like it much anyway. Today, she feels her world is "cerrado," closed.

She rolls up the sleeves of her purple T-shirt. She kicks off her silver flip-flops. She takes a breath.

And dives in.

Grown-up boy takes a nation to the swimming hole



THE WASHINGTON POST

Tom Hillegass, creator of the Swimmingholes.org Web site, has made it his mission to let travelers know about such oases as Mountain Run, north of Harrisonburg, Va., in the George Washington National Forest. "The water feels good on your skin," he says of swimming holes. Illustrates

By BRIGID SCHULTE

(C) 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

Tom Hillegass has been called the swami of swimming holes. (Seriously, he has.) A man who "swoons" for a swim out in the middle of nowhere. A guru with a gospel. And his holy book? It's his Web site, www.swimmingholes.org, with photos and precise directions to more than 1,000 lush and secluded swimming spots across the United States (77 in Virginia alone).

For the past 12 years, Hillegass, 65, a retired from the Department of Transportation, has been virtually single-handedly spreading the word about swimming holes from his Alexandria, Va., home. He has visited many, if not most, and tested the waters himself. He figures he gets into a natural pool at least twice a month during the spring, summer and fall. (Last month, he lazed with his wife and friends in a small, crystal-clear pool in the Shenandoah Valley called Mountain Run. And before that he was in California "researching" 25 or so in the redwood forest.)

The more he quietly yet persistently publicizes the wonders of swimming in nature, as in the days before the proliferation of concrete swimming pools, the more people seem to be listening. He estimates his site gets 30,000 hits a month.

"We are all missing out," he said. "People should go to swimming holes. They just don't know about them."

That's where Hillegass comes in.

"It's really the surroundings," he said. "The water feels good on your skin. It smells good on your skin. I spend most of my time in a swimming hole looking around, at the rocks, the trees, the cliffs. It's all just very beautiful."

This is Tom Hillegass' perfect day: Camping out somewhere far in the country. Taking an afternoon hike of a mile, mile and a half. Finding a great swimming hole by 3 or 4 p.m. and soaking for an hour or so. Returning to the campground for a glass of wine and dinner. "If it's a hot springs, then you can stay in until 9 or 10 at night and go back to your sleeping bag. The warmth stays in your body practically all night. It's a nice experience. Laying in a hot springs under the stars ... "

Like many boys growing up in the 1950s, Hillegass spent his summers at a little swimming hole near his house in Philadelphia. "There weren't a lot of swimming pools then," he said. "And that was in the polio scare days. My mother would not allow me to go to a swimming pool. But at the creek, the water was moving. So I guess my mother thought that that was all right."

But after he grew up and moved away, he forgot about swimming holes. He married and raised three children, who spent their summers splashing around in the neighborhood pools.

Then the family moved to Oregon for two years, while Hillegass was on a job exchange program in Portland. In the verdant Pacific Northwest, Hillegass rediscovered swimming holes and discovered his life's obsession. The Hillegasses swam in the Clackamas River, jumped off rocks into the Sandy River, rafted along the Deschutes River. They soaked in natural hot springs, slid down waterfalls and swung from any rope swing that presented itself.

Hillegass was hooked.

He found many of the best spots by word of mouth. Or after driving around for hours, lost. That's when he got the idea for his Web site. What if, he thought, you could compile this wealth of local knowledge of pristine swimming spots and let other people in on what he considered among the best-kept secrets in America?

Upon returning to Alexandria, he and his daughter began to build the Web site. He listed the 35 swimming holes he knew. Then he pored through hiking books and began visiting any swimming spot mentioned. That was 12 years ago. Now, Hillegass, his mission and his Web site have been written up in The Washington Post, The New York Times and Time magazine and mentioned on blogs throughout cyberspace. He gets a host of e-mails, tips, updates and advice from fellow swimming hole aficionados every day. A few years ago, he picked up a partner, Dave Hajdasz, who scouts out and reports on swimming holes throughout New England.

Hillegass is picky about the sites he lists. If people e-mail him reports about trash or wild behavior, as has happened with a swimming hole in Morgantown near the University of West Virginia, he takes it off his site. Likewise for swimming holes that end up being on private property. He often gets word from local and state park rangers that no swimming is allowed in a swimming hole he lists. "In that case, I'll remove the swimming hole. But if I was there the weekend before and saw 50 people swimming, I won't remove it, but put the park ranger's whole e-mail right there on the site."

State and local governments can be "paranoid" about getting sued if someone has an accident, he said. And accidents do happen—witness the page of warnings on Hillegass' Web site.

"My favorite swimming holes are in national forests or in national parks. Somewhere on federal land," Hillegass said. "The federal government doesn't hassle you. The rangers will often send me corrections to my directions or say, `Don't send people that way, there's poison ivy over there.' The federal government is not paranoid about the liability."

Hillegass is preparing for a road trip to Kentucky to visit his wife's family. He's plotting his route around some swimming holes he's been meaning to get to. Just don't ask him which is his favorite. Some secrets, it turns out, are worth keeping to yourself.

"I don't ever tell anybody about my favorite ones," he said. "They're all on the Web site. But because they're among one thousand others, I figure it dilutes the crowd."

United States

McCain, Palin get rousing welcome in Mich., Wis.

AMERICA VOTES

STERLING HEIGHTS, Mich. (AP)—John McCain and Sarah Palin got a rousing welcome Friday to the final two months of the presidential campaign, stressing themes of a strong America and concern about the sinking economy. "Tough times all over America," McCain said.

Big crowds cheered the Arizona senator and Alaska governor as they made their post-convention debut in Democratic-leaning Wisconsin and Michigan, presenting themselves as a team of reformers eager to challenge Washington's political establishment.

"John McCain doesn't run with the Washington herd," said Palin, the surprise pick as McCain's running mate.

"It's over. It's over. It's over for the special interests," McCain promised. "We're going to start working for the people of this country."

■ ■ ■ ■

DILLONVALE, Ohio (AP)—Democratic presidential nominee Barack Obama, who once pledged to compete in every U.S. state, has shifted his thinking. Now, he'll pick and choose where to spend time and money in his race against Republican John McCain.

Despite early optimism, Obama's strategists are mapping out an electoral plan ahead of the Nov. 4 election similar to Democrat John Kerry's from 2004, with a few tweaks. Kerry lost to incumbent President George W. Bush in a close race.

■ ■ ■ ■

Twelve hours after leaving the Republican convention in Minnesota, McCain and Palin were cheered and applauded by a throng of thousands that wound down several streets of Cedarburg, a traditional Republican enclave near Milwaukee.

Later, they appeared before thousands who filled Freedom Hill Amphitheater in Michigan's Macomb County, home to working-class, union voters who Republicans hope to win with conservative positions on cultural and social issues.

"These are tough times for many of you, in the state of Michigan, times are tough," McCain said. He said many people here were worried about keeping their jobs and putting food on the table.

"Send a team of mavericks who aren't afraid to go to Washington and break some china," McCain implored.

McCain's campaign as a political outsider and rebel is complicated by the fact that he has served in the Senate for 22 years and solidly endorsed key elements of President Bush's record, most notably the war in Iraq and hundreds of billions of dollars in tax cuts. McCain originally opposed the tax cuts but changed his mind as he sought the GOP presidential nomination.

AP

Republican presidential candidate, Sen., John McCain, R-Ariz., and his vice presidential running mate, Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin greet supporters at the Freedom Hill County Park in Sterling Heights, Mich., Friday, Sept. 5, 2008.

AP

Jenny, a Western Lowland Gorilla and the world's oldest captive gorilla, celebrates her 55th birthday at the Dallas Zoo in a Thursday, May 8, 2008 file photo.

Oldest gorilla in captivity dies in Dallas at 55

DALLAS (AP)—The oldest gorilla in captivity, a 55-year-old female named Jenny, has died at the Dallas Zoo - her home for more than half a century, a spokesman said Friday.

Zoo officials decided to euthanize Jenny on Thursday night because of an inoperable tumor in her stomach. Jenny had stopped eating and drinking recently, and tests showed she was unlikely to recover, zoo spokesman Sean Greene said.

"The last couple of weeks we noticed that she hadn't been feeling all that great," Greene said. "It was a quality-of-life decision."

The International Species Information System, which maintains records on animals at 700 institutions around the world, confirmed earlier this year that Jenny was the oldest gorilla in its database.

The zoo held a birthday bash in May to celebrate Jenny's longevity, complete with a cake made of a frozen fruit treats for the guest of honor.

Regulators shut failed Silver State Bank; 11th bank failure this year

WASHINGTON (AP)—Regulators shut down Silver State Bank, saying the Nevada bank failed because of losses on soured loans, mainly in commercial real estate and land development. It was the 11th failure this year of a federally insured bank in the U.S.

Nevada regulators closed Silver State and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. was appointed receiver of the bank, based in Henderson, Nevada. It had $2 billion in assets and $1.7 billion in deposits as of June 30.

Andrew K. McCain, a son of Republican presidential nominee John McCain, sat on the boards of Silver State Bank and of its parent, Silver State Bancorp, since February but resigned in July after five months citing "personal reasons," corporate filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission show. Andrew McCain also was a member of the bank's audit committee, responsible for oversight of the company's accounting.

The younger McCain, who is the chief financial officer of Hensley & Co., the beer distributorship of which Cindy McCain is chairwoman, is the Arizona senator's adopted son from his first marriage.

Andrew McCain's position on the Silver State board and departure were first reported Friday by The Wall Street Journal online.

Silver State Bank ran into difficulty because of a substantial amount of "poor-quality loans primarily related to real estate development" in southern Nevada and other distressed markets, FDIC spokesman David Barr said Friday.

Wash. rampage suspect in court: 'I kill for God'

MOUNT VERNON, Wash. (AP)—"I kill for God. I listen to God," a man accused of a northwest Washington shooting rampage said Friday at a hearing where six charges of first-degree murder and four of first-degree assault were filed against him.

Isaac Zamora made the chilling comment twice at the brief hearing in Skagit County District Court while investigators wrapped up their work at eight crime scenes. The 28-year-old is being held on $5 million bail in the wake of Tuesday's rampage, which left six people dead and four injured.

District Court Judge Warren Gilbert read each charge and the penalties, which carry a maximum sentence of life in prison. That doesn't mean the death penalty is off the table, according to the Skagit County prosecutor.

"Do you talk about it? Sure you talk about it," Prosecutor Rich Weyrich told the Skagit Valley Herald. "Where it goes, it's way too early to decide that."

Zamora was not required to enter a plea Friday. The charges filed in District Court allow Zamora to be held in custody for 30 days.

ACROSS THE NATION

Speedy Tropical Storm Hanna charges for Carolinas

MYRTLE BEACH, S.C. (AP)—Tropical Storm Hanna cruised toward the Carolinas on Friday, forecast to hit land overnight and promising to deliver gusty winds and heavy rain during a dash up the Eastern Seaboard that could wash out the weekend for millions of people. Not far behind was a much bigger worry: a ferocious-looking Hurricane Ike, on a path similar to the one taken by Andrew, the Category 5 monster that devastated South Florida in 1992. Ike could hit Florida by the middle of next week. Emergency officials urged evacuations in only a few spots in the Carolinas and about 400 people went to shelters in both states.

4.0-magnitude quake rattles Bay area; no reports of damage, injury

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—A minor earthquake rattled the San Francisco Bay area Friday night. The U.S. Geological Survey's preliminary report put the quake at a 4.0-magnitude. The temblor's epicenter was near Alamo, California, about 28 miles (45 kilometers) east of San Francisco. There were no immediate reports of damage or injuries in Alamo or surrounding communities, said Contra Costa County Sheriff's spokesman Jimmy Lee. The quake hit just after 9 p.m. and could be felt throughout the region.

NASA's Cassini spacecraft detects faint, partial rings with Saturn's smaller moons

PASADENA, California (AP)—The latest images from NASA's Cassini spacecraft show faint, partial rings orbiting with two of Saturn's small inner moons, scientists said. Cassini detected a partial ring, or arch, orbiting with Anthe for the first time, and confirmed the presence of another arch near Methone, scientists said Friday. The partial rings are likely made of material that micrometeoroids knocked off the small moons. The two small moons orbit Saturn near a larger moon, Mimas. Scientists believe the larger moon's gravitational influence could be what pulls the rings into arcs, said Nick Cooper, a Cassini imaging team associate from Queen Mary, University of London.

Police: Suspect in Illinois bank standoff dead

WHEATON, Ill. (AP)—A gunman who took a dozen hostages in a suburban Chicago bank after wresting a gun from a police officer Friday died after shooting himself in the head, police said. The standoff began around 1:30 p.m., after a Wheaton police officer responded to a call of a hit-and-run accident near the bank. When the officer arrived, the suspect grabbed the officer from behind, held a knife to his throat and demanded his gun, Deputy Chief Thomas Meloni said. During an ensuing struggle, the officer was cut on a forearm and the suspect was able to take the gun and run the lobby of the Wheaton Bank & Trust, where he ordered everyone to the floor, Meloni said. The DuPage County coroner identified the gunman Friday night as Michael R. Long, 41, of Wheaton, a city about 20 miles west of Chicago. An autopsy is scheduled for Saturday.

Murder trial opens in Tenn. love triangle case

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—A prosecutor described a schoolteacher's husband as a jealous, calculating killer as trial opened Friday on charges he murdered his wife's teenage lover. But a defense lawyer told the jury that the defendant was a victim himself of a spouse who flaunted her infidelity. Eric McLean, 33, is charged with first-degree murder in the shooting death of Sean Powell, the 18-year-old who was having an affair with student-teacher Erin McLean, then the 29-year-old wife of the defendant and mother of his two young sons. The defense acknowledges that McLean shot Powell on March 10, 2007, outside the McLeans' home as the victim waited in his car for Erin McLean to run off with him. But McLean claims the single shot from a high-powered rifle that blew away part of Powell's face was an accident, his lawyer Bruce Poston told jurors.

Asia

N. Korea's Kim may be sick

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korean leader Kim Jong Il may be sick as he has been absent from public view for weeks, a South Korean newspaper reported Saturday, saying foreign doctors recently arrived in the communist country.

Five Chinese physicians entered North Korea about a week ago and are still there, the Chosun Ilbo said, citing a South Korean government official who had seen an intelligence report detailing the doctors' movements.

The official told the mass-circulation newspaper that the doctors might have been called in to treat high-level officials, including Kim.

The 66-year-old leader has been out of public view for about three weeks.

The country's official Korean Central News Agency last reported on Kim being out in public on Aug. 14, when he inspected a military unit. KCNA is believed to carry reports every time Kim attends a public event. The agency never comments on Kim's health.

An official with South Korea's main spy agency, the National Intelligence Service, said Saturday he has no information to indicate Kim's health has worsened. He spoke on condition of anonymity saying agency officials should not be identified by name.

The National Intelligence Service has said Kim has chronic heart disease and diabetes but that they are not serious enough to affect his public activity.

North Korea is due to next week mark 60 years since its foundation. The isolated country usually throws a lavish military parade to mark the anniversary that is attended by Kim. If he doesn't attend, this could indicate his health has worsened, the newspaper quoted the official as saying.

Kim's health has been a focus of intense media attention because his fate is believed to be closely tied to that of the totalitarian nation he inherited from his father Kim Il Sung in communism's first hereditary transfer of power.

Last year, media reports said a team of German doctors visited the North and they might have performed heart surgery on Kim. The doctors denied the reports. Other unconfirmed reports had earlier claimed Kim was so sick that he could not even walk 30 yards (meters).

'Fighting in south RP worst in five years'

GENEVA (AP)—Southern Philippines has witnessed its worst fighting in five years, leaving hundreds of thousands of people homeless and in need of humanitarian aid, the international Red Cross said Friday.

Nearly half a million people have been caught up in the violence on the southern island of Mindanao, a spokeswoman for the International Committee of the Red Cross said.

Many have fled their homes and are too afraid to return because they fear fresh clashes between government forces and Muslim separatists, ICRC spokeswoman Carla Haddad told journalists in Geneva.

Troops launched air and ground assaults targeting three Moro Islamic Liberation Front commanders and their units after the guerrillas raided predominantly Christian towns Aug. 18, shooting and hacking to deaths dozens of civilians.

The fighting "is the worst since 2003," Haddad said.

At least 57 civilians, 17 government soldiers and more than 100 guerillas have been killed in the fighting since mid-August, according to the Philippine military.

Haddad said aid groups are concerned about the worsening humanitarian situation.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Pakistani lawmakers start voting on next president

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP)—Lawmakers began casting votes Saturday in Pakistan's presidential election, a race where the favorite by far is the scandal-tainted pro-U.S. widower of slain ex-Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto. If elected, Asif Ali Zardari, the head of Pakistan's main ruling party, could become one of the most powerful civilian leaders in Pakistan's 61-year history. He marshaled a coalition that, using the threat of impeachment, forced longtime U.S. ally Pervez Musharraf to quit last month as head of state. The presidential election comes at a sensitive time for the nuclear-armed, Muslim-majority nation of 160 million. Pakistan's economy is crumbling and it faces rising violence by militants.

Malaysia's leader vows to foil opposition takeover

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)—Malaysia's prime minister has vowed to foil opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim's plan to seize power, but denied trying to send government lawmakers on an overseas trip to hamper them from defecting to the opposition. Anwar has threatened to engineer a slew of defections by legislators from Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi's ruling National Front coalition by Sept. 16, stirring deep anxiety among members of the coalition that has ruled Malaysia for 51 years. Abdullah said at a news conference late Friday that his administration will "make sure that whatever they (the opposition) want to do on Sept. 16 will not happen."

Writer arrested on charge of insulting Thai king

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP)—An Australian writer accused of defaming Thailand's royal family in his 2005 novel was arrested at Bangkok's international airport as he was about to board a flight home, a press freedom organization said Friday. Harry Nicolaides apparently did not know that an arrest warrant had been issued against him in March in connection with his novel, "Verisimilitude," the Paris-based group Reporters Without Borders said. Nicolaides, a 41-year-old Melbourne resident who lived in Thailand from 2003 to 2005, taught in the northern Thai city of Chiang Rai. He was arrested Aug. 31 on a warrant accusing him of defaming Thailand's royal family, according to a statement Friday from Reporters Without Borders.

India vows to avoid arms race

VIENNA, Austria (AP)—India pledged Friday not to engage in a new arms race as talks continued in Vienna over whether to let the U.S. sell India nuclear material and technology for civilian use. It remained unclear whether Washington would win its push to get a waiver on a nuclear trade ban. More than a dozen nations have balked at the deal, pointing out that India has conducted atomic test blasts and has refused to sign the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. In New Delhi, External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee said his country remained committed to a voluntary moratorium on nuclear testing. He said India would not touch off a new arms race or share sensitive nuclear technology with others.

World

AP

Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi, right meets with US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, left in Tripoli, Libya, Friday, Sept. 5, 2008.

Rice meets Gadhafi in historic visit to Libya

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP)—The United States and Libya sealed a historic turnaround after decades of terrorist killings, American retaliation, suspicions and insults with Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice's peacemaking visit Friday with Moammar Gadhafi, Libya's mercurial strongman.

"The relationship has been moving in a good direction for a number of years now and I think tonight does mark a new phase," Rice said following a traditional Muslim dinner—the evening meal that breaks the day's fast observed during the holy month of Ramadan—at Gadhafi's official Bab el-Azizia residence. It is the same compound hit by U.S. airstrikes in 1986 in retaliation for a deadly Libyan-linked terrorist attack in Germany. The attack killed Gadhafi's baby daughter.

"We did talk about learning from the lessons of the past," Rice said. "We talked about the importance of moving forward. The United States, I've said many times, doesn't have any permanent enemies."

Rosetta makes flyby of Steins asteroid

DARMSTADT, Germany (AP)—A deep space probe launched by the European Space Agency successfully has completed a flyby of an asteroid millions of miles from earth.

Rosetta rendezvoused with the Steins asteroid, also known as Asteroid 2867—currently in the asteroid belt between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter—just after 8:45 p.m. (1845 GMT) Friday at a distance of just less than 500 miles (805 kilometers).

As planned, the spacecraft lost signal for about an hour and a half, as engineers turned it away from the sun and because the craft was moving too fast for its antennae to transmit any signal.

At around 10:14 p.m (2014 GMT), the craft resumed signal transmission to the cheers of ESA engineers and technicians.

"We're extremely happy that it worked," said the mission's manager Gerhard Schwehm, sipping a glass of champagne after the announcement from the control room.

WORLD BRIEFS

3 people are dead after being overcome by fumes at Canadian farm

LANGLEY, British Columbia (AP)—Three people are dead and three in a hospital after being overcome by toxic fumes at a mushroom farm in Langley, British Columbia. Const. Holly Marks of the Langley Royal Canadian Mounted Police says the incident happened Friday afternoon when a group of workers entered a utility shed at Farmers Fresh Mushrooms Inc. Other workers who came to the men's aid also were overcome. Two of those hospitalized are in critical condition; the third is stable. Dozens of firefighters, emergency workers and a hazardous materials team were on the scene Friday evening and RCMP say it appears the incident is not criminal. B.C.'s workers' compensation board is investigating.

Iraq govt reacts sharply to US spying allegations

BAGHDAD (AP)—The Iraqi government reacted sharply Friday to published allegations that the U.S. spied on Iraq's prime minister, warning that future ties with the United States could be in jeopardy if the report were true. The allegations appear by a new book, "The War Within: A Secret White House History, 2006-2008," by journalist Bob Woodward, who writes that the United States spied extensively on Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, his staff and other government officials. The report emerged as the two governments are in delicate negotiations over the future of American troops in Iraq. Those talks have already extended past their July 31 deadline and have drawn sharp criticism from Iraqis who want an end to the U.S. presence.

Receding waters from Hanna reveal more bodies

GONAIVES, Haiti (AP)—Receding waters in the starving Haitian city of Gonaives revealed the bodies of more victims killed by Tropical Storm Hanna's floods, as U.N. peacekeepers and aid groups struggled to feed thousands left hungry by the storm. Officials feared fatalities in Haiti from Hanna could rise above the 163 confirmed dead, but said reports of higher death tolls were based on unconfirmed estimates. Flooded roads, broken piers and mass cell phone outages impeded efforts Friday to get food to about 2,000 hungry people, even as Hurricane Ike threatened to trigger more deadly floods across the water-logged city this weekend. The rusty container ship Trois Rivieres, chartered by the U.N. World Food Program, arrived belching white smoke at a remote private port outside the city.

Focus

Truth emerges too late for Kim Soo-im

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Back in the days of "Commies" and "pinkos," of Red scares, black lists, suspicion and smear, Kim Soo-im stood out as a one-woman axis of evil, a villainess without peer. "The Korean Seductress Who Betrayed America," as the U.S. magazine Coronet labeled her, was a Seoul socialite said to have charmed secret information out of one lover, an American colonel, and passed it to another, a top communist in North Korea.

In late June 1950, as North Korean invaders closed in on this teeming, panicked city, Kim was hastily executed by the South Korean military, shot as a "very malicious international spy." Her deeds, thereafter, only grew in infamy.

In 1950s America, gripped by anti-communist fever, one TV drama told viewers Kim's "womanly wiles" had been the communists' "deadliest weapon." Another teleplay, introduced by host Ronald Reagan, depicted her as Asia's Mata Hari. Reviled as the Oriental queen of a vast Soviet "Operation Sex," she was even blamed by Washington columnist Drew Pearson for igniting the entire Korean War.

Kim Soo-im and her love triangle are gone, buried in separate corners of a turbulent past. But in yellowing U.S. military files stamped "SECRET," hibernating through a long winter of Cold War, the truth survived. Now it has emerged, a half-century too late to save her.

The record of a confidential 1950 U.S. inquiry and other declassified files, obtained by The Associated Press at the U.S. National Archives, tell a different Kim Soo-im story:

Col. John E. Baird had no access to the supposed sensitive information. Kim had no secrets to pass on. And her Korean lover, Lee Gang-kook, later executed by North Korea, may actually have been an American agent. The petite woman smiling out from faded photographs, in silken "hanbuk" gown, may have been guilty of indiscretions. But the espionage case against her looks in retrospect—from what can be pieced together today—like little more than a frame-up.

Baird and fellow Army officers could have defended her, but instead the colonel was rushed out of Korea to "avoid further embarrassment," the record shows. She was left to her fate—almost certainly, the Americans concluded, to be tortured by South Korean police into confessing to things she hadn't done.

The story of Kim Soo-im is a cautionary tale of political hysteria, fear-mongering and sensationalist media, from a time when historians now believe the Seoul regime secretively executed at least 100,000 leftists and supposed sympathizers.

Those killings came en masse and long ago. But this one woman's death remains, for one American, a living, deeply personal story.

Wonil Kim—son of Kim Soo-im and Col. Baird—is on a quest to learn all he can about his mother and her ordeal, to restore the truth and destroy the lies. Thus far, he says, he has found her "an intelligent woman with a passion for life, a strong woman caught up in the torrent of historical turmoil, and drowned."

The son, a theology professor at California's LaSierra University, was the first to discover the declassified U.S. documents, a 1,000-page trove of hidden history. Now he has also found an ally, Seoul movie director Cho Myung-hwa, who plans a feature film to tell the "human story" of Kim Soo-im.

"He betrayed her," Cho said of Baird. "He had a high position and the power to save her. He could have testified. But he just flew back stateside to his American family."

AP

This photo released by Wonil Kim, shows Kim Soo-im, in a 1939 portrait inscribed to a girlfriend.

The precise, soft-spoken theologian, 59, and the veteran moviemaker, 63, both say that to grasp the Kim Soo-im story one must understand the Korea of the 1930s and 1940s, when people united in opposing Japan's colonial rule, and younger, educated Koreans leaned to the left in envisioning land and other reforms to modernize their feudal society. Cho pointed out a little-known fact: In 1946, a year after the U.S. Army occupied southern Korea at World War II's end, a U.S. Embassy poll found that 77 percent of southerners wanted a socialist or communist future.

Instead, the U.S. military government kept many of Japan's right-wing Korean collaborators in power, and the U.S. commander, Lt. Gen. John R. Hodge, vowed to "stamp out" the communists.

Kim Soo-im, born in 1911, was among the educated elite. An orphan, she was schooled by American missionaries, eventually graduating from Seoul's prestigious Ewha women's college, a U.S. Methodist-founded institution.

In 1936, as a female office administrator, something rare in Korea, she was featured in a Seoul magazine article on the new generation of liberated young women. Smart and fashionable—a fox-trot dancer, it was noted—she had a circle of sophisticated, politicized friends, including Moh Yoon-sook, later Korea's best-known poetess.

In 1941, Kim met an older married man, Lee Gang-kook, a German-educated intellectual active in Seoul's clandestine leftist movement. She became his lover, and he rose in political prominence, gaining a seat on the Central People's Committee, a broad nationalist coalition that sought to take over Korea from a defeated Japan in September 1945.

Hodge's crackdown stifled that effort, and within a year Lee, facing arrest as an alleged security risk, fled to communist-run northern Korea.

Kim Soo-im's fluent English, meanwhile, had made her valuable to the U.S. occupation. She was hired as an assistant by Baird, the Americans' 56-year-old, Irish-born provost marshal, or military police chief, and was soon overseeing his network of Korean informants monitoring the black market, thievery of U.S. materiel and other crimes.

Baird secured a house for her and took to spending nights there, or slipping her into his officer's quarters, according to Korean and American witnesses in the declassified record.

"She had a baby by Col. Baird," Kim's friend Nancy Kim would later tell U.S. interrogators. "We all knew. He was the only man friend of Kim Soo-im. He slept in the house many times. The baby looks like the father."

When the U.S. occupation army withdrew in 1949, succeeded by an advisory corps, Baird shifted to assisting the national police, and his American wife came to Korea to join him. In North Korea, meanwhile, Kim's ex-lover Lee, risen to important posts, made broadcasts denouncing the southern regime.

Finally, on March 1, 1950, Kim, no longer U.S.-employed, was arrested by South Korean police, joining thousands of others ensnared in President Syngman Rhee's roundups of leftists—workers and writers, teachers, peasants and others with suspect politics. "It was witch-hunting," said historian Jung Byung-joon, who has studied the case. "The South Korean police and prosecutors hated her because she was the lover of Lee Gang-kook, and then of Col. Baird, and nobody could touch her. They waited for their chance."

On June 14, 1950, nine days after Baird sailed from Korea, Kim Soo-im faced a five-judge South Korean military court and a long list of alleged crimes, including obtaining vehicles from the colonel that she lent or sold to "communist" friends, keeping guns at her house, and transporting Lee Gang-kook to the northern border in 1946 with a U.S. Army jeep.

The most serious charge at the trial, a headline event in Seoul newspapers, accused her of eliciting the classified 1949 U.S. withdrawal plans from Baird, and relaying them to the northern communists.

As her court-appointed lawyer noted, the government presented neither material evidence nor witnesses to back up the charges. The court even rejected guns the prosecutors offered as exhibits. "The Korean police at the time were notorious for fabricating evidence that didn't exist," said Wonil Kim.

But on the trial's third day, according to a summary in the declassified U.S. file, Kim Soo-im confessed. She said she had asked Baird about withdrawal plans, and shared the information with friends, only because they were worried about their future U.S. employment.

Her friend Moh pleaded for mercy, "moving the audience to tears" with the story of Kim's deprived childhood, the summary says. But the court sentenced her to death.

Just weeks after her execution, however, and across the Pacific, U.S. military investigators reviewing Baird's role were hearing confidential testimony from Army officers and enlisted men indicating Kim's conviction was a contrivance of the Seoul authorities.

On point after point—alleged illicit use of jeeps, an Army truck, sedans, a radio and other items for "communistic activities"—Baird staunchly denied such dealings with Kim, and the inspector general's office repeatedly found that "the evidence does not substantiate the allegation," according to the long-secret record of the 1950 Pentagon inquiry. On the key count of espionage, officers up to Gen. Hodge himself testified Baird had no access to the details of classified plans for the troop withdrawal. Besides, the outlines of the withdrawal had been reported in Stars and Stripes, the military newspaper available to all.

The investigators concluded there was only a "remote possibility" Kim Soo-im used Baird as alleged. Since she was dead, they said, that couldn't be fully disproven.

Col. William H.S. Wright, head of the Korea advisory group, had testified that her confession was probably forced through "out and out torture," probably near-drowning, or waterboarding, as it's now known.

"The water cure is a very common method," Wright said. "Electric shock and the use of pliers is frequent."

A Korean source backs this up. In a 2005 Seoul TV report on Kim Soo-im, longtime government propagandist Oh Jae-ho, a staunch anticommunist, said he learned from a police official that the defendant had to be carried into the courtroom to confess on the final day.

"It was truly an emotional moment for me to hear him say it," recalled Wonil Kim. The son believes Kim Soo-im gave in because otherwise "they would send her right back to the torture chamber."

In the turmoil of war, this year-old orphaned boy was adopted by a church administrator and his wife, a head nurse at the hospital where Kim gave birth. In 1970, the Korean family moved to the United States, where Wonil Kim eventually earned a Ph.D. in Old Testament studies.

He had been told about his birth mother as a teenager, and her old friends and others later informed him about his father, to whom he bears a strong resemblance. The painful legacy never left his mind.

Not long before Baird died in 1980, at age 90, Wonil tracked the old colonel down, finding him in a Rhode Island nursing home. Baird rejected his illegitimate son, speaking instead of a "Mr. Smith" as the father, Wonil Kim said. But after Baird's death, his family was "very warm and accepting."

Baird would never have "really stuck his neck out to save her," Wonil Kim said. But he also knew that the writer Moh, in her memoirs, recounted that the American officer "came to her begging her to save her, my mother."

It wasn't until he discovered the long-classified Baird investigative files that Wonil Kim began to learn of the flimsy case that condemned Kim Soo-im. But crucial questions remain—about the mysterious Lee Gang-kook, for example.

A confidential profile drafted by Army intelligence in 1956 said Lee was reported to have been employed by the CIA's covert "JACK"—Joint Activities Commission, Korea. And, in fact, the North Koreans executed Lee

See TRUTH on next page

Life & Style

White House: Bush wasn't detached from war review

By DEB RIECHMANN
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP)—The White House on Friday disputed an assertion in a new book by Bob Woodward that President Bush was slow to react to escalating attacks in Iraq, forcefully arguing that Bush's military buildup was responsible for a sharp drop in the violence.

In a sharply worded, two-page statement, National Security Adviser Stephen Hadley pushed back on other revelations in the book, but did not address Woodward's assertion that the Bush administration spied extensively on Iraq Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki and others in the Iraqi government.

Woodward's book, "The War Within: A Secret White House History, 2006-2008," tells of a president detached, tentative and slow to react to the escalating violence in Iraq, The Washington Post reported on its Web site Thursday night.

But once Bush decided that thousands of additional troops were needed, he moved with focus and determination even though top military advisers resisted him, wrote Woodward, a Post associate editor.

Hadley said Bush was not "detached" from an internal review he ordered of the war in late 2006. Woodward writes that the review was done in secret because the White House was worried it would damage GOP chances in midterm elections. "We've got to do it under the radar screen because the electoral season is so hot," Hadley is quoted as telling Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice in the book.

Hadley countered, saying the review was done in secret to avoid politicizing the process.

"If he (Bush) had wanted to boost the Republican chances in the election, he would have publicly announced both the strategy review and the decision to change his secretary of defense," Hadley said, referring to Bush's decision to oust Donald H. Rumsfeld, the powerful defense secretary and architect of the Iraq war. "The president did neither so as to avoid politicizing these decisions."

The book is the fourth by Woodward to examine the inner debates of the Bush administration and its handling of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. It was scheduled for release Monday.

The book said Bush's decision in January 2007 to send about 30,000 more troops to Iraq—the so-called surge—was not the primary factor behind the steep drop in violence. The article identifies four factors that together reduced the violence: covert operations, the military buildup, anti-American Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr's decision to rein in his Mahdi Army, and the "Anbar Awakening" in which Sunnis joined Americans in fighting al-Qaida in Anbar province in western Iraq.

"I beg to differ," Hadley said, arguing that the military buildup actually "enabled" the other factors.

"It was the surge that helped us convince Sadr that a cease-fire was in his best interest because his Mahdi Army could not prevail on the battlefield," he said. "It was the surge that gave the Awakening Movement the confidence to continue to stand up to al-Qaida and take back Anbar province.

"It was the surge that provided more resources and a security context to support newly developed techniques and operations. And it was the surge that allowed the Iraqi security forces to grow and build their capacity to fight."

Hadley said the picture of U.S. policy in Iraq presented in the Post was "at least incomplete." But he did not address the spying allegation, which prompted sharp reactions Friday in Baghdad.

The Iraqi government warned that future ties with the United States could be in jeopardy if the report is true. Iraqi government spokesman Ali al-Dabbagh said Baghdad would raise the allegations with the U.S. and ask for an explanation. If true, he warned, it shows a lack of trust.

White House press secretary Dana Perino also declined to directly comment on the spying allegations. She stressed the daily communications between Washington and Baghdad. "We have a good idea of what Prime Minister Maliki is thinking because he tells us, very frankly and very candidly," she said.

The book is coming out just as the two governments are in delicate negotiations over the future of American troops in Iraq. Those talks have already extended past their July 31 deadline and have drawn sharp criticism from Iraqis who want an end to the U.S. presence. Critics may well use the allegation to step up pressure on the government not to sign a deal or hold out for the most favorable terms.

Stand Up to Cancer telethon takes over network TV

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Three TV networks, cancer research advocates and more than 60 celebrities from music, sports, TV and film made history Friday night with a live telethon that aired simultaneously on NBC, ABC and CBS.

Jack Black, Jennifer Aniston, Halle Berry and Keanu Reeves—along with presidential nominees John McCain and Barack Obama—were among the stars participating in "Stand Up to Cancer," an hourlong, commercial-free fundraising show spearheaded by entertainment-industry heavyweights whose lives have been touched by the disease.

"This is an absolutely historic night, thanks to the unbelievable generosity of the three networks," producer and cancer survivor Laura Ziskin told the audience at the Kodak Theatre before the show began.

"We hope we're going to make you laugh, and I know we're going to make you cry, so I have some party favors," she said as she tossed packets of Kleenex into the crowd.

AP

Fran Drescher, left, and Sharon Osbourne pose together before the Stand Up to Cancer benefit at the Kodak Theater in Los Angeles, Friday, Sept. 5, 2008.

Cancer survivors Lance Armstrong and Elizabeth Edwards kicked off the program with statistics: Cancer kills 550,000 Americans and six million people worldwide each year.

"That's the equivalent of 9/11 every two days," Armstrong said.

Patrick Swayze, Billy Crystal, Salma Hayek and Christina Applegate urged viewers to call in and donate, while Neil Patrick Harris, America Ferrera, Christina Ricci and Kirsten Dunst answered phones. A visibly pregnant Jennifer Garner, along with Berry, Forest Whitaker and Casey Affleck, read personal accounts from those battling cancer.

Network news anchors Katie Couric, Charles Gibson and Brian Williams emceed the program, discussing advances in research and telling heartwrenching tales of those struggling with the disease.

Black provided a dose of comic relief: "I usually watch these things at home in my underwear," he said, adding that the celebrities answering phones may have some of the fattest pockets around.

"I'm going to make these gravy-trainers pony up," he said. "Who's got Spielberg's number? He's got a lot of dough."

Brad Garrett, who underwent a prostate exam on the show, said, "I can't believe that Fox is counterprogramming against this."

Charles Barkley shared his colonoscopy with viewers. The worst part of the experience? Fasting.

"I'm a fat guy. I don't like to go the whole day without eating," the basketball star said.

The show featured musical performances by James Taylor and Sheryl Crow, Josh Groban and Monica Mancini, Melissa Etheridge with Sugarland, BeBe Winans and Jason Mraz. It also featured a performance by more than a dozen divas - including Beyonce, Mariah Carey, Mary J. Blige and Rihanna - who sang their new charity song, "Just Stand Up," via video from the Fashion Rocks show in New York.

ON THE NET

http://standup2cancer.org

Aniston helped close the program with a nod to Hollywood.

"In our world, the boy gets the girl, the hero defeats the villain and cancer is no more," she said.

Skateboarder Tony Hawk, who lost his father to lung cancer 15 years ago and a close friend to a brain tumor last month, said he was just happy to participate.

"I'm here doing whatever they ask of me," he told reporters before the telethon began. "As long as I don't have to sing or dance, it's all good."

Ziskin, one of the event's organizers, has fought cancer since 2004. After seeing what "An Inconvenient Truth" did for environmental awareness, she wanted to make a documentary about cancer. But instead she teamed up with Couric, Sherry Lansing and other cancer community activists to put on the live telethon.

"Cancer is not in the closet anymore, and now that it's out of the closet we have to motivate the public to demand that as a country we do better," she said. "And if the country won't do it, we'll do it. We'll raise money ourselves and try to spend that money in a way that will lead to better, less toxic treatments that we can get to patients more quickly."

The aim of Stand Up to Cancer is to raise funds for "translational research," Ziskin said, which encourages scientists to collaborate rather than compete, translating basic science into applicable therapies for patients. She compared the approach to the Manhattan project.

"We took the best and brightest and locked them up in Los Alamos and said you can't leave until you split the atom and create, unfortunately, a bomb," Ziskin said. "This is no less a problem, with half a million Americans a year dying from this disease. If we take best and brightest, encourage them and reward them for working together, the answers will come much more quickly."

TRUTH

From Page 20

as an "American spy" after the Korean War ended with a 1953 armistice.

Historian Jung, who discovered that declassified profile at the National Archives in College Park, Md., still believes with other historians that North Korean leader Kim Il Sung had Lee and other southerners executed to eliminate potential rivals.

The isolated document remains a puzzle, nonetheless, raising further questions about Kim Soo-im's tangled relationships. Wonil Kim suspects that his mother, entrusted with a U.S. military vehicle, did help her lover Lee get to northern Korea in 1946, a time when it was still easy for intelligence operatives to cross the 38th Parallel. Was Lee somehow linked to the Americans?

The Baird file, meanwhile, leaves another question unanswered.

Completing its 1950 investigation, the Army inspector general's office recommended that Baird be court-martialed for bringing discredit on the Army through his scandalous liaison with a Korean mistress. But within a month the file was stamped "Case closed." The facts on Kim Soo-im were locked away for a half-century. Who blocked a trial and why?

As moviemakers must, Cho will fill in such unknowns with best guesses or surprise twists of plot. But Wonil Kim still seeks the truth, a quest that this June led him to a surprising figure, a feeble, 88-year-old Seoul lawyer who as a young army officer was one of five judges who sent Kim Soo-im to her death. After meeting the son, elderly ex-soldier Kim Tae-chung spoke briefly with the AP, defending the long-ago verdict, but saying he'd told Wonil that Kim Soo-im "to me didn't look like a bad person."

Was she tortured? the AP asked.

"All I know is what happened in the courtroom," Kim Tae-chung protested. "I don't know anything beyond that."

The theologian son said he didn't meet with the old judge in order to challenge him. In fact, he found him "a very gentle kind of soul ... honest in his own way ... a very anticommunist and conservative Christian" who "believes he did the right thing."

Their hour together proved "cathartic," "redemptive" for both men, Wonil Kim said. And for a son on a sad, dutiful mission, it proved essential.

"I just needed to be with someone who was in the courtroom with her," he said—to talk about his mother, to summon up the memory of Kim Soo-im, before that memory slips finally, forever into the grave.

New Seinfeld ad draws negative reviews online

NEW YORK (AP)—No soup for Microsoft?

The software giant's new ad starring Jerry Seinfeld has drawn largely negative reviews online after premiering Thursday night during NBC's broadcast of the National Football League's season kickoff game.

Seinfeld

The ad was the start of a highly anticipated $300 million advertising campaign that Microsoft is launching in attempt to rebuff Apple's popular TV commercials, which have portrayed Microsoft and PCs as uncool.

In the commercial—which can be found at Microsoft.com and on video sharing sites—Seinfeld is walking through a mall when he spots Microsoft Chairman Bill Gates at a "Shoe Circus" store. The comedian then helps Gates pick out a new pair of shoes while the jokes come quick: showering with clothes on, Gates being a "10," platinum credit cards for a fictional shoe store.

It's a zany ad that packs a lot of quirkiness into 90 seconds. With no direct mention of Microsoft or its operating system, Vista, the commercial concludes with the slogan: "The future, delicious."

The ad was created by Crispin Porter & Bogusky—a firm with a reputation for oddness. Many technology and advertising blogs have turned to Seinfeld's trademark comedy description—"nothing"—to describe the ad.

"Huh?" wrote Abbey Klaassen for Ad Age. "You could be forgiven for not knowing what the heck Microsoft's new TV ad ... was about."

Dan Frommer, writing for the Silicon Alley Insider, pronounced the ad "not funny" and added that the mall shoe store setting "is not going to help Microsoft look any cooler."

For the blog Techcrunch.com, Michael Arrington noted that the "tech and geek crowd is a little underwhelmed" by the ad, which he said is "a far cry from the brilliant Microsoft v. Mac ads."

Brad Brooks, vice president of Windows consumer product marketing, said in a video posted on the Windows press Web site, that the ad is a "teaser" meant to "engage customers in a conversation ... to get the conversation going again about what Windows means in people's everyday lives."

Even if the reaction was mostly negative, Microsoft's ad has clearly succeeded in getting people talking.

Jacksons reunite at BMI Urban Awards

By DERRIK J. LANG
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

AP
Janet Jackson, center, poses with her brothers, from left, Marlon Jackson, Tito Jackson, Jackie Jackson and Randy Jackson of pop group The Jacksons after they received the BMI Icon award at the 8th Annual BMI Urban Awards in Beverly Hills, Calif., Thursday, Sept. 4, 2008.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The Jacksons were crowned icons at the BMI Urban Awards, but the King of Pop was an absentee.

Janet Jackson presented her music-making brothers—Michael, Tito, Jackie, Marlon, Jermaine and Randy—with the lifetime achievement BMI Icon award following a musical tribute at the award show celebrating R&B and hip-hop's top hitmakers. While Tito, Jackie, Marlon and Randy reunited Thursday to accept the award, Jermaine and Michael didn't attend the Wilshire Theatre ceremony.

Where was the Moonwalker?

"I don't know," Marlon told The Associated Press before the show. "I think he's in Egypt riding a camel or something."

The Jackson Five—which included Michael along with Marlon, Jackie, Tito and Jermaine—was a groundbreaking, best-selling act that debuted on the 1969 album "Diana Ross Presents The Jackson 5." The group simply became the Jacksons after leaving Motown in 1976, replacing Jermaine with Randy. They continued their multiplatinum success with such hits as "ABC" and "I Want You Back."

"It's a great honor to know your music influenced a generation," said Tito. "We're very proud of this moment."

The tribute kicked off with dance troupe Jabbawockeez performing a funky "Dancing Machine" routine. Music group ONE sang "I Want You Back." JoJo and Lloyd partnered on "I'll Be There" before Mario unleashed a high-energy rendition of "Heartbreak Hotel" and Keri Hilson crooned "Who's Loving You." The finale featured Mario, Bobby Valentino, Lloyd and Ray J teaming up for "Never Can Say Goodbye."

Before presenting her brothers with the award, Janet said her family was her greatest commodity and that she was proud to salute her siblings for their accomplishments in the music industry.

Following the acceptance of the icon award, the Jackson brothers posed on stage for photos with father Joseph, mother Katherine and sisters Janet, LaToya and Rebbie. The Jacksons did not perform.

Other BMI Urban Award winners included Soulja Boy, Polow Da Don, Rodney Jerkins and DJ Montay. Song of the year was awarded to Ne-Yo, Espen Lind and Amund Bjorklund for "Irreplaceable." Jonathan "J.R." Rotem, Kanye West and T-Pain were honored as producers of the year. T-Pain was also selected as songwriter of the year. Universal Music Publishing Group was given the publisher of the year award.

BMI—Broadcast Music Inc.—is a performing rights organization that collects license fees on behalf of its songwriters, composers and music publishers and distributes them as royalties to those members whose works have been performed.

British director Guy Ritchie, left, and his wife Madonna arrive for the world premiere of his film 'Rock n Rolla' in London, Monday, Sept. 1, 2008.
AP

Ritchie rocks again with crime romp 'RocknRolla'

By DAVID GERMAIN
AP MOVIE WRITER

TORONTO (AP)—Crime just never stops paying for Guy Ritchie.

With "RocknRolla," writer-director Ritchie returns to the sort of gangster tale that shot him to fame with "Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels" and "Snatch," presenting a big, boisterous ensemble of lovable low-lifes doing anything they can to score a buck or rub out an enemy.

While Ritchie stumbled with his last two flicks—the romantic remake "Swept Away" starring his wife, Madonna, and the gambling thriller "Revolver"—"RocknRolla" has the kind of manic energy that made audiences fall for the rogues of his earlier films.

"I suppose the middle class is quite interested in what the subclass of crime is up to, because they're often very creative and stay outside the conventional framework that we all operate in. That's always titillating," Ritchie said Thursday, before the film's premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival. "RocknRolla" opens Friday in Great Britain and on Oct. 8 in the United States.

"RocknRolla" spins a dense web of heists, betrayals, land schemes and political payoffs involving London and Russian mob bosses, small-time hoods, a plotting accountant and a strung-out punk rocker. The cast includes Gerard Butler, Thandie Newton, Tom Wilkinson and Idris Elba.

Newton, who plays the ice-queen accountant whose conniving sets everyone at one another's throats, said the crime world offers Ritchie an ideal canvas for his brand of energetic tale.

"It's up for grabs. Anything goes for a creative person, for a storyteller. It's a great place. It's like a microcosm of the whole universe," Newton said. "Because there are no rules, well, there are rules definitely, but because there's no one way to do anything, you do whatever you need to do to get that person snuffed out or to get that money. People are much more creative in how they do things, so it kind of allows for just an artistry that's entertaining."

Ritchie, who turns 40 on Wednesday, was promoting "RocknRolla" in North America while wife Madonna continued her concert tour in Europe. Though the two are apart, Ritchie was quick to dismiss rumors that the relationship was on the rocks.

"Oh, please. They've been speculating whether we've been getting divorced I think almost since we got married," Ritchie said. "The same can be said as to whether she's pregnant or whether we're adopting another child. I think that's just the nature of gossip."

"Everything seems fine," Ritchie said of his marriage. "As far as I'm aware."

Ritchie and Madonna drew jeers from critics for "Swept Away," an update of Lina Wertmuller's acclaimed saga about a pampered society dame stuck on an island with a communist sailor.

"Swept Away" barely saw the light of day in theaters, but Ritchie stands by the film, saying he has no regrets about making it. The baggage that comes with his wife's superstardom may have muddied its reception, Ritchie said.

"'Swept Away' is exactly the movie I wanted to make. I think people missed the irony of it. It was supposed to be a commentary on political correctness, but sort of Madonna seemed to have gotten in the way," Ritchie said. "But if you look at it, no one was making anything like that. It was revoltingly honest in its approach toward the masculine and feminine dynamic. I found it very amusing, and I like it as a movie."

Next up for the British filmmaker is a different brand of crime tale with "Sherlock Holmes," a new interpretation of Arthur Conan Doyle's classic mysteries, starring Robert Downey Jr. as the brilliant London detective.

Ritchie has an affinity for Holmes dating back to childhood.

Bon Jovi hosts Obama fundraiser

MIDDLETOWN, N.J. (AP)—Unlike his Republican opponent, Democrat Barack Obama is still raising money for his presidential campaign, and he turned Friday to rock legend Jon Bon Jovi for help.

Bon Jovi and his wife, Dorothea, hosted more than 100 people for dinner on their mansion lawn by the Navesink River in Middletown, N.J. The price was $30,800 a person, to be divided between the Obama campaign and the Democratic National Committee.

"When I look at Barack, I see an old man," Bon Jovi said in introducing his guest. Obama is 47, Bon Jovi is 46.

Obama spoke for about eight minutes before greeting guests individually. He vowed to fight Republican attacks on his character and background more fiercely than John Kerry did in his losing campaign four years ago.

"We're not going to be bullied, we're not going to be smeared, we're not going to be lied about," Obama said. "I don't believe in coming in second."

Earlier in the evening, Obama attended a $2,300-per-person reception at the nearby home of veteran party fundraiser Phil Murphy. About 200 people, including the Bon Jovis and New Jersey Gov. Jon Corzine, attended.

Republican nominee John McCain can raise no more campaign money because he accepted about $84 million in public funding and the restrictions that go with it. Obama turned down the public funding, figuring he can raise and spend more on his own.

AP

Musician Jon Bon Jovi, left, talks with New Jersey Gov. Jon S. Corzine, center, during a news conference about affordable housing in Newark, N.J., Tuesday, Sept. 2, 2008.

French pop artist Jacquet dies at 69

NEW YORK (AP)—Alain Jacquet, a French pop artist known for his reinterpretations of famous paintings, has died, the French Embassy said.

Jacquet, who lived in New York and Paris, died of cancer Thursday at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital, the embassy said in a statement. He was 69.

Jacquet's work often reflected the sensibilities of pop art, which emerged in Britain and the United States in the 1950s and '60s and drew on advertising, comics and other pieces of popular culture.

He also revisited well known artworks from previous eras. One of his best-known paintings recasts the impressionist giant Edouard Manet's "Dejeuner sur l'Herbe," which depicts a female nude picnicking with two fully clothed men. In Jacquet's version, they are replaced by a gallery owner, an art critic and a painter. He also based works on two other renowned nudes, Manet's "Olympia" and the neoclassical painter Jean-Auguste-Dominique Ingres' "La Source."

Born Feb. 22, 1939, in Neuilly-sur-Seine, France, Jacquet had his first exhibition in France in 1961. His work is held by institutions including New York's Museum of Modern Art, the National Museum of American Art in Washington and the Musee d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris in France, the embassy said.

Divorce papers reveal Hulk Hogan's net worth

CLEARWATER, Fla. (AP)—Thousands of dollars spent on clothing, grooming and vacations are among the average monthly expenses for Hulk Hogan's wife, according to financial affidavits filed in the couple's impending divorce case near Tampa.

Hogan

Linda Bollea's monthly expenses include $7,258 on clothing; $1,318 on grooming; $6,100 on vacations, the documents state. Hogan, whose real name is Terry Bollea, spends $102 on clothing by comparison, and more than $38,000 on legal and accounting fees.

The couple disagrees over Hogan's net worth; Hogan claims it is $32 million, while his wife, Linda, claims it is $26.7 million. Meanwhile, their son Nick is serving an eight-month jail sentence for causing a traffic crash that left a passenger permanently disabled.

2 out of 3 people worldwide tuned in for Olympics

NEW YORK (AP)—More than two out of three people worldwide tuned in for the Beijing Olympics.

Nielsen Media Research says 4.7 billion viewers globally saw at least some of the 17 days of TV coverage last month. This audience was one-fifth larger than the 3.9 billion who watched the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens.

Host nation China claimed more viewers than any other nation, Nielsen said Friday, logging an audience reach of 94 percent among its population of 1.3 billion.

In the U.S., where NBC and several sister networks aired extensive coverage, the 2008 Olympics took the record as the most-viewed event in American television history.

Hootie frontman Rucker a hit with country radio

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Darius Rucker says he's always been a sucker for a country shuffle.

The lead singer for the rock/pop group Hootie & the Blowfish has a Top 5 country hit with his solo single "Don't Think I Don't Think About It."

The tune is a ballad instead of a shuffle, but Rucker is thrilled nonetheless.

"We expected some success, but this is unbelievable," he said Thursday from his home in Charleston, S.C.

His country CD, "Learn to Live," comes out Sept. 16.

Rucker, who said Hootie is on hiatus but will be back, has been talking about making a country record for a while. He was ready to do one in Charleston when Capitol Nashville expressed interest in the project.

Rucker

"It shocked me. I didn't think anybody had a desire to sign Darius Rucker," he said.

In some ways, the 42-year-old Rucker says, he's been making country music all along. Foster & Lloyd and Dwight Yoakam were big influences on his songwriting.

"Back in the day I wrote a lot of country songs and we turned them into rock and roll songs. Now I get to write those songs and play them as country," he said.

"If this record was 12 shuffles and a ballad, I'd be real happy," he added.

His timing is good for crossing over. Country radio seems wide-open with Jewel, the Eagles and Bon Jovi all finding success. Besides Rucker, this week's Billboard country Top 10 also includes Kid Rock's "All Summer Long."

Kindness puts woman's bad day back on track

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: Please let the world know that kind people still exist. I was on my way to two job interviews. Not surprisingly, I was nervous, so before I got off my train, I took my phone out to check the directions to the first one. A short walk later, I reached the subway, but when I went into my purse for my wallet to buy a MetroCard, lo and behold, my wallet and new glasses were missing.

I retraced my steps and ran to the courtesy counter to ask if anyone had turned in my wallet and glass case. The woman in the booth told me the train was still in the station and to hurry there immediately to check for my things. Long story short, no luck.

Heartbroken, I returned to the courtesy desk. Not only would I miss both my appointments, but I was stranded with no money. I burst into tears as I explained the situation to the woman in the booth. Abby, she reached into her purse and handed me $7! "It's all I have right now," she said, "use it to get to your interviews." I went to my interviews and aced them both. When I came back to thank her, she was gone, but she had described me to the woman on the next shift who handed me a courtesy ticket home.

Abby, that woman's kindness was overwhelming. And just when the day couldn't get any better, I received a call. A conductor had found my wallet and glasses and would meet me on the train the next day.

I just want to share that kindness can happen when we least expect it. When it happens, we should pay it forward.

S. SMITH, ASBURY PARK, N.J.

DEAR S. SMITH: And I know you will. Good deeds are like wildflower seeds. Throw enough of them around and a desert becomes a garden.

▪ ▪ ▪ ▪

DEAR ABBY: I'm a stay-at-home mother with a 4-year-old son. Every summer, my stepson—who is now 8—comes to stay with us. In past years it has been all right, but since the boys have become more rambunctious, it has gotten harder.

Abby, I don't deal well with stress. Having two active boys running around the house has made me extremely nervous. There's a reason I chose to have only one biological child -- I knew I couldn't handle more. I thought a few short summers with a stepchild would be OK. I was wrong.

I have spoken to my husband about my problem; he doesn't seem to understand the amount of strain I am under. I am starting my own business later this year, and my husband doesn't see why I can't bring both boys to my appointments next summer. The younger child would play quietly alone, but not with his half-brother there. What should I do?

PULLING MY HAIR OUT IN HUNTSVILLE

DEAR PULLING YOUR HAIR: You husband is mistaken. Two active boys should not accompany you to your business appointments, any more than they should accompany your husband to his. Start researching NOW what summer programs are offered in your area for kids so they will be entertained and supervised during the day. Family time can be in the evenings and on weekends, when you are in a better frame of mind to deal with the pandemonium.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 7-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $25 per 3 liner ad for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of below packages that fits your budget.

ADS (7DAYS)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	**$25**
• 5-Liner	**$35**
• 3-Liner with picture	**$45**
• 5-Liner with picture	**$55**

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday And Sunday Issues:
- *Saipan Tribune:* All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on either Sunday or Monday issues.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Make it a daily habit!

Log on to www.saipantribune.com

EMPLOYMENT

Wanted: 1 Full-time Barista 18 y/o or above & IR/US citizen only bring your resume to the JAVA JOES CAFE-Dandan in person. No phone calls please.

FOR RENT - COMMERCIAL

2 Commercial Space for Rent. One 2000 sq.ft. & One 1000 sq.ft. Garapan area across Treasure Island Game Club. Contact Emil De Belen @ 483-3645/233-5100

WANTED

CONSTRUCTION WORKER

$5.00 per hour.
Call 285-2649
between 10AM & 4PM.

FOR RENT - COMMERCIAL

2000 sq.ft Warehouse for Rent in Gualo Rai. For more information please call 235-6527/28

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Apartment room for rent: Fully furnished 1 brm, T/B, 24-hr water $210/month, near Conwood | Tel. 287-1372, 235-6748

Navy Hill Apartments for rent. Spacious 2-bedroom units with beautiful view of Saipan. Featuring a private view balcony, fully furnished, FREE wireless DSL, 24-hour water, night-time security, typhoon shutters, laundry area, on-call maintenance staff & BACK-UP GENERATOR. Call 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

DRUNK DRIVING
Over the limit. Under arrest.

Subscribe to the CNMI's First Daily Newspaper

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Trib
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 14, 2007
Guard files sex harassment suit vs principa
2 hurt in Puerto Rico vehicular crash. PA
There is still hope for nonimm
joins Micronesia si
OPINION METER
This week's poll:
With what you know of the CUC situation, do you support the adoption of new

235- NEWS

Serena aims for third US Open title

NEW YORK (AP)—Serena Williams wound up and smacked a shot directly at Dinara Safina early in the second set of their U.S. Open semifinal.

The ball hit Safina near her shoulder, ending the point, and she quickly turned her back to the net, muttering as she walked away, ignoring Williams' attempts to apologize.

Not much later Friday, Williams tried again to say "Sorry," except this time both players were standing at the net after the American wrapped up a 6-3, 6-2 victory. Now Williams can take aim at a third championship at Flushing Meadows and ninth Grand Slam title overall.

Hard to believe her very first major title came in 1999 at the U.S. Open.

"I just am excited to obviously still be here," Williams said, "and, 10 years later, still putting up a major fight."

It's her first U.S. Open final since 2002, when she beat older sister Venus. This time, they met in the quarterfinals, and Venus offered advice about facing Safina, then sat in the stands Friday, cheering. The siblings' parents, who also serve as their coaches, were there, too, after skipping the all-Williams match.

"I was thinking to myself, 'OK, if you're going to beat your sister, you have to go all the way,'" said their mother, Oracene Price.

Next up for Williams: Jelena Jankovic.

"Overall, she's, I think, the strongest player on the tour, together with her sister," said the second-seeded Jankovic. "Nobody has the power that they have. We cannot compare."

Jankovic eliminated Olympic gold medalist Elena Dementieva 6-4, 6-4. It will be Williams' 12th Grand Slam final, and Jankovic's first, and in addition to the silver trophy at stake, the winner will rise to No. 1 in the rankings next week.

The final is scheduled for Saturday night, but forecasts calling for rain much of the day prompted tournament organizers to announce contingency plans that could include postponing the match until Sunday.

"I'm ready to play tomorrow. Hopefully we can," Williams said. "If not, I'll be ready for Sunday, Monday, Tuesday - doesn't matter."

She got off to a shaky start against Safina, the younger sister of 2000 U.S. Open men's champion Marat Safin. Broken in her first service game, Williams fell behind 2-0, but she won seven of the next eight games, eventually doing a much better job than Safina of dealing with wind that gusted at over 20 mph.

Safina wound up with 41 unforced errors, and she repeatedly rolled her eyes or shook her head or shouted at herself in English or Russian, much the way her brother does. A few points after being pelted by the ball, Safina hit her fifth double-fault of the match and yelled, "I hate the wind!" Two points after that, Safina pushed a backhand long and Williams broke to lead 2-1 in the second set.

"I was behaving like a really spoiled girl," Safina said.

The whipping air played havoc with serve tosses - the women combined for 11 double-faults - and all manner of other strokes. The U.S. flag above the video board at one end of Arthur Ashe Stadium rippled so loudly that Safina turned to glare at it before one serve.

AP

Serena Williams, of the United States, reacts after winning the first set over Dinara Safina, of Russia, during their semifinal match at the U.S. Open tennis tournament in New York, Friday, Sept. 5, 2008.

"I thought, 'OK, if it's so windy, then I'm not going to go for so many winners," said Williams, who didn't produce her first winning forehand until the match was 30 minutes old.

Still, she was gritting her teeth, pumping her fists and hollering, showing the will to win her mother described as "unending."

"Everything," Price said, "is supposed to be hers."

Down 2-1, Williams broke Safina, but needed three break points in that game to do it. On the second, Safina tried a drop shot that Williams charged, hitting a ball toward her foe's face. Safina ducked and the ball went long. Eventually, a missed forehand by Safina made it 2-2 there.

Williams broke to a 5-3 lead when Safina put a forehand into the net, and a similar miscue ended the set in the next game.

Safina didn't go quietly, breaking at love to tie the second at 1-all. It was in the next game, though, that Safina couldn't get out of the way after trying another drop shot that Williams sent back at her body.

Safina said that upset her, but she also acknowledged, "It's all in the rules. I can only be angry with myself for hitting a bad drop shot."

When they spoke after the match, Williams said: "I didn't mean it, OK?"

"I was, you know, nearly mortified that I hit her," Williams said later.

Jankovic, meanwhile, lost eight of the first nine points and fell behind 2-0 and 4-2. But as Dementieva became more tentative and more erratic, Jankovic reeled off five consecutive games to claim the first set and a 1-0 edge in the second.

Jankovic also trailed by a break at 3-2 in the second set, before coming back again. She got plenty of help - 42 of the 66 points Jankovic won came from unforced errors by the fifth-seeded Dementieva.

Jankovic entered the match with an 0-4 record in major semifinals, including losses at this year's Australian Open and French Open. But she kept tracking down balls, running along the baseline and stretching her racket, extending points until Dementieva missed.

Villegas leads soggy BMW Championship

ST. LOUIS (AP)—Camilo Villegas and Steve Stricker were excited to be playing golf Friday for different reasons, and it showed during a soggy start to the BMW Championship.

Villegas, coming off a tie for third last week that allowed him to advance in the PGA Tour Playoffs, continued his good form with eight birdies on long, soft Bellerive Country Club for a 5-under 65 that gave him a one-shot lead.

The 26-year-old Colombian believes winning is a process, and it appears to be accelerating with each round.

"Sometimes you really want to be on the golf course and it's going great, and sometimes it's a grind," Villegas said. "You've got to be ready for both. I'm excited right now. I feel really good about by golf."

Stricker made a 35-foot birdie putt on the 18th hole for a 4-under 66, tied with Kenny Perry, Tim Herron, Stuart Appleby and Andres Romero.

The smile on his face had more to do with the putt.

His stomach has been churning the last month during what felt like an audition for the Ryder Cup. Stricker, who was bumped out of automatic qualifying at the PGA Championship, began sweating over every poor shot, every missed putt, and he only exhaled Monday night when U.S. captain Paul Azinger told him he was being selected.

AP

Camilo Villegas, of Colombia, lines up putt on the second hole during the first round of the BMW Championship golf tournament Friday, Sept. 5, 2008, in St. Louis.

The burden lifted, he played some of his most relaxed golf of the year.

"It was a lot different than the last two weeks," Stricker said. "I did feel a little more at easy. I didn't feel as much pressure on every shot. I felt a lot more relaxed."

PGA Tour officials breathed easy, too.

The first round Thursday was postponed because of 3 inches of rain that about turned Bellerive into a water park. The forecast called for the storm to pass in the afternoon, but it stubbornly stayed through Friday morning, with a light rain as players warmed up on the range.

Even so, Bellerive was in decent shape. Some tees were moved forward, and hole locations were on high ground. Players were able to lift, clean and place their golf balls through the fairway. And while the course played every bit of its 7,324 yards, firing at the flags was merely target practice.

Thirty-six players in the 69-man field man field broke par, a group that did not include Vijay Singh, winner of the first two events in the finale for the FedEx Cup.

Singh remains virtually a lock unless someone close in the standings wins the last two events. But he hardly looked like the guy who won a playoff at Barclays and closed with a 63 to win the Deutsche Bank Championship.

He missed putts that had been going in from everywhere. Trying to putt with the blade of his sand wedge through the first cut of rough on the par-3 sixth, he stubbed the shot and took bogey. With a wedge in his hand, he came up 20 yards short of his mark and flipped his club to the ground.

Singh still wound up with a 70.

"It's not an easy golf course," he said. "The greens were slower than what we practiced on."

Sergio Garcia, No. 2 behind Singh by more than 12,000 points, was trying to move to the top of the leaderboard until he hooked his tee shot on the 610-yard eighth, where it hit a spectator and kept from going well off the fairway. He hooked his second shot into the rough and wound up with bogey, sending him to a 68.

Garcia and Mike Weir, who is No. 3 and shot 69, played in the same group as Singh. Garcia also played with him in the final round at the TPC Boston, only it wasn't the same Singh.

"He hit more bad shots then he has the last two weeks," Garcia said. "But I've got to focus on one thing. Even if he doesn't do great, I still have to do very well."

The public parking lot was wiped out by the rain, the tournament started a day late under gray conditions, and the gallery still turned out in strong numbers, a tribute to a golf-mad city that hasn't seen this caliber of play since the 1992 PGA Championship, won by Nick Price.

Villegas delivered most of the moments, including a string of four birdies that began with a 40-footer at No. 5 and ended with a pair of tap-ins inside a foot.

Disgraced sprinter Marion Jones freed from prison

SAN ANTONIO (AP)—Disgraced sprinter Marion Jones was released Friday from federal prison after completing most of her six-month sentence for lying about her steroid use.

Jones left a halfway house in San Antonio around 8 a.m., said LaTanya Robinson, a community corrections manager for the federal Bureau of Prisons. Jones, who has a house in Austin, will remain on probation.

Jones' attorney did not immediately respond to a call or e-mail from The Associated Press requesting comment.

The sprinter admitted last October that she used a designer steroid known as "the clear" from September 2000 to July 2001. The drug was linked to the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative, the lab that became the center of a steroids scandal that touched numerous professional athletes, including baseball star Barry Bonds.

Her admission of drug use in 2007 came after years of denials.

In 2004, she sued the founder of BALCO for defamation after he said she used steroids. The lawsuit was settled the following year, long before she told the truth in a federal courtroom.

Jones gave back the three gold medals and two bronze medals she won at the 2000 Olympics in Sydney before the International Olympic Committee officially wiped her name from the record books in December.

Morneau's slam helps Twins beat Tigers

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Justin Morneau hit a grand slam and Francisco Liriano threw seven solid innings to help the Minnesota Twins snap their three-game losing streak with a 10-2 win over the Detroit Tigers on Friday night.

Delmon Young also homered and had an RBI double in the seventh to help the Twins score more runs than they did in their previous three games combined in Toronto.

It was the fourth-career grand slam for the former AL MVP, and second this season. The shot gave Minnesota a five-run lead in the fifth inning.

Liriano (5-3) had a season-high nine strikeouts and improved to 5-0 since returning to the Twins lineup last month. In April, the 24-year-old lefty gave up 13 runs in three starts before being sent to the minors to shake off the rust after recovering from Tommy John surgery. But in his seven starts since being called back up, Liriano has surrendered only eight runs.

He did give up two homers, though, both to Marcus Thames before leaving in the eighth with runners at first and second with no outs. Jesse Crain relieved without further damage and Boof Bonser pitched a scoreless ninth.

Armando Galarraga (12-5), who allowed only three hits but struggled with his control early, walked the bases loaded for the second time of the night in the fifth before Morneau's grand slam gave Minnesota a 6-1 lead.

The Twins added four more in the seventh when Joe Mauer's RBI single drove in Alexi Casilla, Young doubled to left to score Mauer, and Brian Buscher added a two-run single.

Galarraga lasted six innings, walking a season-high six batters while striking out four.

AP

Minnesota Twins' Justin Morneau offs his cap to an ovation after his grand slam off Detroit Tigers' Armando Galarrago in the fifth inning of a baseball game Friday Sept. 5, 2008 in Minneapolis.

Jays 6, Rays 4

In Toronto, Roy Halladay pitched seven solid innings to win his fifth straight start, Alex Rios hit two homers and the Toronto Blue Jays beat the Tampa Bay Rays 6-4 on Friday night to extend their season-high winning streak to six.

Rios hit a solo homer in the third and a two-run drive in the eighth for his third career multihomer game and second this season.

The AL East-leading Rays have lost three of four.

Halladay (18-9) allowed three runs, one earned, and seven hits. He struck out seven and walked none.

Scott Downs followed Halladay with a scoreless eighth. B.J. Ryan gave up Jason Bartlett's RBI double in the ninth but struck out Carlos Pena with runners at second and third for his 27th save in 30 opportunities.

Andy Sonnanstine (13-7) lost for the first time in seven starts, allowing four runs and five hits in six innings.

Athletics 11, Orioles 2

In Baltimore, Rajai Davis' grand slam was the only Oakland hit in an eight-run eighth inning, and the Athletics topped the six-run barrier for the first time in 41 games.

The victory ended Oakland's four-game skid and extended Baltimore's season-high losing streak to seven games.

The big eighth enabled Oakland to avoid tying a franchise record for consecutive games without scoring more than six runs. The Philadelphia Athletics went 41 straight games without scoring more than a half-dozen runs from Sept. 23, 1915, to May 20, 1916, and the 1916 A's matched the mark from June 29-Aug. 8.

Hours before the game, the Orioles announced that manager Dave Trembley would return in 2009.

Oakland starter Dallas Braden (5-3) allowed four hits and two runs, one earned, in five innings.

Chris Waters (2-2) gave up three runs and five hits in 5 1-3 innings for Baltimore.

Phillies 3, Mets 0

In New York, Brett Myers buzzed through the New York Mets' lineup, pitching eight dominant innings and leading the Philadelphia Phillies to a 3-0 victory Friday night that cut their NL East deficit to two games.

Greg Dobbs hit a two-run homer off Mike Pelfrey (13-9), and the Phillies took the opener of a crucial three-game series between the top teams in the division. Philadelphia, which rallied past the collapsing Mets last September, handed New York only its sixth loss in 23 games.

Brad Lidge got through a shaky ninth, retiring Carlos Beltran and Ryan Church with two on to end it.

Shane Victorino helped manufacture a run in the first inning, giving Myers (9-10) all the offense he needed. The right-hander allowed three hits and struck out 10 in another overpowering performance, winning his fourth straight start.

After struggling early this season and even going down to the minors to polish his game, Myers is 6-1 in nine outings since coming back from Triple-A Lehigh Valley on July 20.

Reds 10, Cubs 2

In Cincinnati, Jay Bruce hit his first career grand slam and Joey Votto added a two-run homer, an all-rookie power display that help Cincinnati beat Chicago on a day when nothing went right for the first-place Cubs.

Manager Lou Piniella got lost on his way to the ballpark. Starter Ted Lilly lasted a season-low two innings. And the Cubs' losing streak reached a season-high six games against a team already eliminated from the race.

Lilly (13-9) gave up five runs, including Votto's 18th homer, before his quick exit. The left-hander has started four times against the Reds this season and lost all four.

Right-hander Bronson Arroyo (14-10) won his fourth straight start, allowing one run in 6 1-3 innings of a game that kicked off the Cubs' longest road trip of the season.

Braves 10, Nationals 5

In Atlanta, rookie Brandon Jones' three-run double capped a seven-run third inning, and Kelly Johnson had three hits and two RBIs in the Braves' win over the Nationals.

The Braves have consecutive wins for the first time since Aug. 9, a span of 25 games.

Washington has dropped two straight and three of four after a season-high seven-game winning streak.

Rookie Jair Jurrjens (12-9) allowed six hits, one run and three walks in five innings to win for the first time in five starts. The right-hander, who escaped a bases-loaded jam in the first on Roger Bernadina's groundout, struck out six.

Nationals starter Jason Bergmann (2-11) allowed seven runs and five hits with three walks in 2 1-3 innings, his shortest start this season. He was chased after Casey Kotchman's bases-loaded walk gave the Braves a 4-1 lead in the third.

Brewers 3, Padres 2

In Milwaukee, CC Sabathia pitched seven strong innings, but the Milwaukee Brewers needed a RBI single from J.J. Hardy in the 11th inning to beat the San Diego Padres 3-2 on Friday night.

The win snapped the Brewers' four-game losing streak and got them within four games of the NL Central-leading Chicago Cubs, who lost to Cincinnati on Friday.

Sabathia, who has not lost in 12 starts since he was acquired by the Brewers on July 7, gave up just one run and five hits while striking out nine. He also had two singles and drove in a run.

He left with a 2-1 lead, but Brian Giles tied the game in the eighth inning, hitting reliever Eric Gagne's second pitch into the rightfield seats for his 11th home run, prompting a loud boos.

In the 11th inning, backup catcher Mike Rivera led off the inning with a single off of reliever Brian Falkenborg (2-3). Craig Counsell reached on a fielder's choice and moved to third on Ray Durham's single. Hardy then hit a 1-2 pitch to leftfield to drive in Counsell.

Brian Shouse (5-1) relieved David Riske with two runners on in the 11th inning and got a double play to get out of the inning recorded the win.

Ewing, Olajuwon enshrined in Hall

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. (AP)—Hakeem Olajuwon, Patrick Ewing and Pat Riley were enshrined into the Basketball Hall of Fame on Friday night, but it was inductee Dick Vitale who, as expected, stole the show.

Others in the class, which also included Adrian Dantley, Detroit Pistons and Shock owner Bill Davidson and former Immaculata University coach Cathy Rush, gave speeches. But the ESPN commentator held court, preaching with passion for almost 30 minutes about everything from basketball to broadcasting to family.

He connected all three in a story about his dad, who pressed coats during the day and was a security guard at night.

"I've been stealing money talking about a game, getting paid," he said. "That's why it breaks my heart when I see some athletes, chips on their shoulder. Are you serious? Flying charter planes? I don't want to hear about 80 games a year. What other job do you get four months vacation. Are you serious? Making millions if you can't play."

Vitale, who coached high school, college and briefly in the NBA, was enshrined as a contributor to the game after spending the past 30 years becoming the voice of college basketball—extolling the virtues of "PTPers (Prime Time Players), screaming "Awesome baby!" and being passed overhead through student sections across the country.

It was Vitale who gave Olajuwon the nickname, "The Dream," during his freshman year at Houston, where the 7-footer led the Cougars to three Final Fours. In the NBA, Olajuwon had 27,000 points, 13,747 rebounds and 3,830 blocks

"It was a dream that came true," he said.

Ewing also went to three Final Fours at Georgetown. He scored just under 25,000 points and had 11,607 rebounds in the NBA, becoming the New York Knicks' career leader in points, rebounds, blocked shots and steals, and earned two Olympic gold medals.

Olajuwon was asked Friday about the friendly rivalry he and Ewing shared while becoming two of the greatest centers in basketball history.

"Who said it was friendly?" Olajuwon replied.

Ewing's Georgetown Hoyas beat Olajuwon and the Houston Cougars in the 1984 NCAA championship game. But Olajuwon earned two NBA rings in Houston, the first 10 years later, by beating Ewing's New York Knicks in a seven-game series in 1994.

AP

The 2008 Induction Class for the Basketball Hall of Fame, from left, Adrian Dantley, Patrick Ewing, Hakeem Olajuwon, Pat Riley, Cathy Rush and Dick Vitale pose at the Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, Mass., Friday, Sept. 5, 2008.

West Coast head wants to revive taekwondo on Saipan

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
n_rodriguez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The president of the U.S. West Coast Taekwondo Association has signified his intention to revive the sport on Saipan, according to Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association president Michael A. White.

White said that Jay K. Shin earlier informed the NMASA about his arrival today with the goal of reestablishing the sports here in the CNMI.

White has recalled that several years ago NMASA had an active taekwondo association.

"As far as I know, no one is actively practicing this sport here now," noted White in an email.

He said that Shin's organization offers instruction and training for the sport of taekwondo.

White is informing those who are interested in organizing a taekwondo association to contact him at his email, mwhite@saipan.com.

Taekwondo is a contact sport, which is more popularly played in the Asian region such as Korea, Japan, and in the Philippines.

But athletes from New Zealand as well as Europe and the Middle East are now making their way in international competitions.

Taekwondo is the national sport of Korea. It was included as a demonstration sport in the 1988 Seoul Olympics and became a regular event at the Sydney 2000 Summer Games.

Two events left in SAIWAI calendar for 2008

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
n_rodriguez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Saipan Walking Association Inc. recently announced that they have two more walking activities left before 2008 comes to a close.

These are the 9th Annual Thanksgiving "Don't Be A turkey Walk" to be held on Nov. 22 and the Annual Christmas Walk in the Marianas on Dec. 20.

The turkey walk traditionally begins at the Chamolinian Cultural Village in Garapan and takes participants along the flame tree-, coconut palm-, and ironwood tree-lined route of the Saipan Beach Pathway.

It is being held with the help of the Department of Public Health and the CNMI Diabetes Coalition.

The bookend annual Christmas Walk in the Marianas, meanwhile, coincides with the start of Christmas celebration in the Marianas. The walk starts at the Chamolinian Cultural Village and is held in partnership with the Marianas Visitors Authority.

Just last month, the 7th Annual Foundation & Family Day was held along the Saipan Beach Pathway.

Like in the past, the 9th Annual Thanksgiving "Don't Be A Turkey" Walk as well as the Annual Christmas Walk in the Marianas will be sanctioned by IVV and as such SAIWAI and IVV members will receive credit for joining.

IVV has member walking clubs in the U.S., Canada, Brazil, Japan, South Korea, Turkey, Nepal, Australia, New Zealand, the CNMI, and 29 other European countries, including Germany.

For more information about the 9th Annual Thanksgiving "Don't Be A Turkey" Walk and SAIWAI, contact Mario Espeleta at 322-8876, Hiroko Tenorio at 322-8781, or Bea Quitugua at 285-1694.

SAIWAI was incorporated as a non-profit corporation on July 27, 2001 and was established to promote public health through non-competitive walking.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Participants in one of SAIWAI's events last year leisurely walk along Beach Road.

Castro joining Pals after stint with Singapore Slingers

MANILA, Philippines— Jason Castro is playing a second tournament with the Singapore Slingers in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia then will return home to play for Talk 'N Text in the Philippine Basketball Association.

"He's under contract to play with the Slingers in the National Basketball League in Australia. Since the Slingers have left the NBL, Jason wants out. He's looking forward to play for Talk 'N Text," said Castro's agent-adviser Danny Espiritu.

"The Slingers want an addendum in their contract to keep Jason, but Jason has made up his mind to go home after the Malaysian invitational," Espiritu added.

Castro played his first tournament with the Slingers in the recent Sultan Cup in Brunei, leading the team to the championship and emerging as the league MVP.

The day after the Sultan Cup championship, the flamboyant guard out of Philippine Christian U was picked No. 3 overall in the 2008 PBA Rookie Draft. He's one of four draftees chosen by the Pals aside from Jared Dillinger, Rob Reyes and Pong Escobal.

After the Malaysian invitational, the Slingers are to return in their homebase in Singapore playing host to the Purefoods Tender Juicy Giants and Air21 Express among other foreign guest teams in their own invitational tourney.

"Jason wants out after Malaysia so he can start practicing with Talk 'N Text," said Espiritu.

Four Australian players had left the Slingers after the Brunei Sultan Cup.

Apparently, Espiritu has closed a deal with Talk 'N Text for Castro while the player was abroad. The player is likely to get an P8.7 million package in three years as what Dillinger and Reyes stands to receive at the Smart/PLDT franchise.

Elsewhere, Red Bull has extended the playing contracts of Cyrus Baguio and Carlo Sharma, Air21 has re-signed Homer Se and KG Canaleta while Alaska has acquired 6-foot-7 center-forward Ervin Sotto.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Tampa Bay	85	54	.612	_
Boston	83	57	.593	2 1/2
New York	75	66	.532	11
Toronto	74	66	.529	11 1/2
Baltimore	63	77	.450	22 1/2

Central Division

Chicago	79	61	.564	_
Minnesota	8	63	.553	1 1/2
Cleveland	68	71	.489	10 1/2
Detroit	67	74	.475	12 1/2
Kansas City	60	80	.429	19

West Division

Los Angeles	85	55	.607	_
Texas	69	73	.486	17
Oakland	64	77	.454	21 1/2
Seattle	55	85	.393	30

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

New York	79	62	.560	_
Philadelphia	77	64	.546	2
Florida	72	69	.511	7
Atlanta	62	80	437	17 1/2
Washington	54	88	.380	25 1/2

Central Division

Chicago	85	56	.603	_
Milwaukee	81	60	.574	4
St. Louis	75	66	.532	10
Houston	74	67	.525	11
Cincinnati	63	78	.447	22
Pittsburgh	60	80	.429	24 1/2

West Division

Arizona	71	69	.507	_
Los Angeles	71	70	.504	1/2
Colorado	67	75	.472	5
San Francisco	60	80	.429	11
San Diego	54	87	.383	17 1/2

Yesterday's Games

Oakland 11, Baltimore 2
Toronto 6, Tampa Bay 4
Boston 8, Texas 1
Minnesota 10, Detroit 2
Cleveland 9, Kansas City 3
Chicago White Sox 10, L.A. Angels 2
Seattle 3, N.Y. Yankees 1
Philadelphia 3, N.Y. Mets 0
Cincinnati 10, Chicago Cubs 2
Atlanta 10, Washington 5
Milwaukee 3, San Diego 2, 11 innings
Florida 4, St. Louis 1, 11 innings
Colorado 5, Houston 3
L.A. Dodgers 7, Arizona 0
Pittsburgh 7, San Francisco 0

BMW CHAMPIONSHIP SCORES

ST. LOUIS (AP)—Scores from Friday's opening round of the BMW Championship, a $7 million U.S. PGA Tour event at the 7,456-yard, par-70 Bellerive Country Club Course:

FIRST ROUND

Camilo Villegas	31-34	65
Steve Stricker	33-33	66
Kenny Perry	32-34	66
Tim Herron	33-33	66
Andres Romero	33-33	66
Stuart Appleby	33-33	66
Tim Clark	33-34	67
Chez Reavie	35-32	67
Brian Gay	33-34	67
Fredrik Jacobson	33-34	67
Dudley Hart	33-34	67
Ernie Els	34-34	68
Anthony Kim	34-34	68
Phil Mickelson	33-35	68
J.B. Holmes	34-34	68
Sergio Garcia	35-33	68
Jay Williamson	33-3	68
Lucas Glove	35-33	68
Charley Hoffman	35-33	68
Stephen Ames	36-32	68
Padraig Harrington	35-34	69
Hunter Mahan	34-35	69
Trevor Immelman	35-34	69
Brandt Snedeker	35-34	69
Geoff Ogilvy	36-33	69
Steve Marino	37-32	69
Mike Weir	35-34	69
Bart Bryant	34-35	69
Martin Laird	36-33	69
Dean Wilson	35-34	69
Mark Wilson	35-34	69
Adam Scott	34-35	69
Justin Leonard	35-34	69
John Senden	33-36	69
Woody Austin	34-35	69
Angel Cabrera	33-36	69
Nicholas Thompson	35-35	70
Vijay Singh	34-36	70
Eric Axley	35-35	70
Mathew Goggin	33-37	70
Ben Curtis	36-34	70
K.J. Choi	33-37	70
Jim Furyk	34-36	70
Kevin Sutherland	34-36	70
Ken Duke	37-33	70
Ben Crane	32-38	70
Kevin Streelman	35-35	70
D.J. Trahan	38-33	71
John Mallinger	33-38	71
Aaron Baddeley	37-34	71
Jonathan Byrd	36-35	71
Robert Allenby	35-36	71
Heath Slocum	36-35	71
Boo Weekley	35-36	71
Tommy Armour III	33-38	71
Carl Pettersson	35-37	72
Johnson Wagner	36-36	72
Ryuji Imada	34-38	72
Rory Sabbatini	37-35	72
Scott Verplank	36-37	73
Chad Campbell	37-36	73
Billy Mayfair	36-37	73
Bubba Watson	36-37	73
Stewart Cink	36-37	73
Briny Baird	37-36	73
Jerry Kelly	35-39	74
Brian Davis	36-39	75
John Merrick	39-37	76
Charlie Wi	37-39	76

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUTONOMOUS

From Page 28

With Quitugua considered as an offensive threat to their foes, especially when he is slashing to the basket, he usually opens opportunities for his teammates to score.

But Friday night, Corrections had limited offensive options and were outhustled by the heftier, bigger and faster Autonomous.

Corrections now has to win its next game to avoid elimination.

The playoff round in the PTI caging has a double-elimination format.

Next week, four more teams will play their first game in the playoffs. Pennant champion NMC will meet the Legislature, while No. 2 PTI will collide with Tinian.

DCCA opened action in the playoffs Thursday and pulled off a dramatic 83-82 victory against Bank of Guam with Elias Rangamar swooshing a 3-point shot in the closing seconds of the game.

Autonomous 82—P. Rasa 29, Diaz 23, Aaron 7, Wesley 6, Camacho 6, Coldeen 4, Castanares 2.

Corrections 68—Iguel 27, Blas 17, Itibus 10, Mendiola 5, Joab 4, Kwon 2.

Scoring by quarters: 18-13, 35-29, 60-42, 82-68.

Referees: Gilbert Espinosa and Eric Artillaga

RECORD

From Page 28

Skip Bontham (260 lbs.); sixth Team BUDWEISER, Frank Shimizu Jr. (240 lbs.); seventh Marshalls British Club Scott Howe (200 lbs.); eighth Joshuya Japan, Shutar Seki (95 lbs.); and Taiwan Fishing Association, ninth Ping-Nan Cheng (59 lbs.).

Two teams did not caught any marlin. They were Kwajelein Lajkaan under Lee Pennington and PAGO PAGO Billfish under Gary Sword.

In the Tuna Class, Deloitte-Guam's Chris Woseley topped the category with his 65-lb. entry, while Taiwan Fishing Association's Ping-Nan Chen was second with its 59 pounder.

Woseley also submitted the third heaviest catch in the category (57 lbs.) and fourth (49 lbs.).

Team Budweiser's Frank Shimizu Jr. won the wahoo class with his 50-lb. catch and also with the second heaviest of 29 lbs.

Woseley also entered the two heaviest fish in the barracuda class with his 21-lb. and seven-lb. entries.

Morneau's slam helps Twins beat Tigers

Justin Morneau hit a grand slam and Francisco Liriano threw seven solid innings to help the Minnesota Twins snap their three-game losing streak. 26

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Serena aims for third US Open title

Serena Williams wound up and smacked a shot directly at Dinara Safina early in the second set of their U.S. Open semifinal. 25

Autonomous avenges loss to Corrections

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Defending champion Autonomous eased past the Department of Corrections, 82-68, Friday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium for its first win in the playoff round in the Inaugural PTI Inter-Government/Business Basketball League.

It was a reversal of fortunes for the two teams which met once in the regular season with Corrections capitalizing on Autonomous' depleted lineup to lead their power outage-suspended match on Aug. 29, 82-62, with three minutes, .02 of a second left in the final quarter.

Autonomous decided not to continue the game, as it was lacking manpower.

But in the important playoff round, Autonomous made sure they have their main gunners to lead the team's attack.

Ponce Rasa and Ed Diaz. who were absent in their first game against Corrections, anchored Autonomous' potent offense, combining for 52 of the team's total points.

Rasa announced his entry, scoring Autonomous' first basket and went on to finish with 11 points in the first quarter, which ended with his team ahead by five, 18-13. Rasa led al scorers with his 29 points.

Diaz started slow, scoring only nine in the first half, but he cut loose in the second half, escaping his defenders and drilling numerous layups.

He finished with 23 points, making 10 in the third quarter, which saw ATM pulling away with a 60-42 advantage, entering the fourth quarter.

Mitch Aaron, who also missed their game against DOC in the regular season, chipped in seven.

Pete Iguel had his usual numbers for Corrections, firing 27 points, while Gregorio Blas added 17.

But these were not enough to lift Corrections to another win, as it missed the services of Jeffrey Quitugua, who averaged in double figures in scoring in the regular season.

See AUTONOMOUS on Page 27

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Autonomous' Chris Camacho slices through the defense of the Department of Corrections and goes for a layup during their playoff game in the PTI caging Friday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

OFF THE BENCH

By BOB COLDEEN
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Coldeen is a longtime journalist in the CNMI and is currently the news director of KSPN2

Pigskin ponderings

Now that football season is back, I feel normal again. Actually, I won't feel normal until the power outages go away.

Last Sunday morning I looked forward to seeing the Florida Gators play the Hawaii Warriors on the internet at 2:30am. I set my alarm clock for 2:20. I awoke at 2:05 (instinct) and was ecstatic to see the power was still on. I sat at my desk and leaned over to turn on my computer. The power went out at 2:06. My scream woke up my wife.

"What's the matter?" she asked.

"Gawda#$$%+#&*@#", I grumbled back.

"Oh, I see," she said in the dark.

You could say, Saipan has less power than a Chicago Bears quarterback.

Here are the some NFL thoughts from someone who has grown more fond of the college game than the pros.

I don't really know what happened to the Brett Favre/Packer relationship except something went terribly awry. There was no good reason for Green Bay management to force Favre last March into making a decision to retire or come back. It wasn't like they needed to know in order to draft a quarterback in April. They could have waited until the opening of camp. If Aaron Rodgers was their man, so be it. Then let him beat out Favre fair and square.

But Favre coming back to the New York Jets sounds too much like Joe Namath going to the Los Angeles Rams at the end of his career or Johnny Unitas going to the San Diego Chargers. Or Willie Mays fading as a New York Met. Or Pete Rose batting in the low two hundreds in a Phillie uniform just so he could break a record. It doesn't feel right.

And if Favre is true to himself when he says he only plays because he wants to win a championship, then he fooling himself because the Jets will not get to the playoffs.

Oh well, who am I to tell Brett Favre, one of my favorite players of all time, what to do?

Here's my prediction: Jets go 8-8 and fail to reach the playoffs. Favre erodes into an average quarterback and decides to retire at the end of the season.

Personally, I would rather go out like Jerome Bettis who retired in a Steelers uniform as a champion. That's exiting in style. Or like John Elway.

With no special inside knowledge, I think something is wrong with Tom Brady's foot which could spell trouble for the Patriots. It's possible that he can play thru the injury but that problem has now been with him for nine months. That's a long time. The heel should have healed by now.

Peyton Manning was considered by many to be a choker, a terrific quarterback who was terrible in big games. And then he finally won the Super Bowl in his ninth season. I think Tony Romo is following a similar path. His failure in the playoffs is now his reputation which will stay until he takes the Cowboys to the Promised Land. I think this is the year.

If Brady stays healthy, then the Patriots should repeat at AFC champs. If he goes down, then I am going out on a thin breadfruit limb and taking the Jacksonville Jaguars to pull off the upset special and represent the AFC.

Don't laugh. In 2002 I picked the Tampa Bay Bucs to win the Super Bowl and they did. Of course I picked them in 1999, 2000, and 2001 as well.

Super Bowl Prediction: Dallas 27, Jacksonville 16. Don't laugh. Just be thankful if the power is on so we can see it.

Record marlin caught in Majuro tourney

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
n_rodriguez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A 794-lb. marlin was caught at the Budweiser 16th Annual All Micronesia Fishing Tournament held in Majuro, Marshall Islands last weekend.

The new record is owned by Alex Tretnoff, the captain of Team Pohnpei Fishing Club whose crew included his wife, Mary, and son, Alex Jr., representing the Federated States of Micronesia.

Their winning fish broke the seven-year record of 719 lbs. caught by Kyle Aliven in July 2001.

They not only went home with their record-breaking feat but also pocketed the top prize of $3,000.

Deloitte-Guam's Chris Woseley also caught a huge 792-lb. marlin for second place, while Anja Andy of Marshalls Billfish Club reeled in a 648-pounder for third.

Pacific Magazine's Karen Earnshaw wrote that it was the most successful competition ever in the Marshalls in terms of big fish.

Completing the 11-team field tournament with their ranking and captain were the following: fourth place Pohnpei Fishing Club, Conrad Engilberger (563 lbs.); Kwajelein Tight Lines, fifth

See RECORD on Page 27

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Team Pohnpei Fishing Club and its captain Alex Tretnoff broke the seven-year record in last weekend's Budweiser 16th Annual All Micronesia Tournament when it landed a 794-lb. monster marlin. At left is Budweiser's Frank Shimizu Jr.